

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 OCTOBER 1982

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil Statements -- After meeting with President Ronald Reagan at the White House, President Amin al-Jumayyil said in remarks broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio that the Lebanese people deeply appreciate and will never forget Reagan's efforts to end the suffering in Lebanon. He affirmed that Reagan's Middle East peace initiative has created unprecedented opportunities for peace and declared that U.S. friendship and assistance are vital for Lebanon, not only in peacekeeping and peacemaking but also in rebuilding Lebanon's Armed Forces. Meanwhile, in an interview with the Rome daily LA REPUBBLICA, Al-Jumayyil promised that Lebanon's relations with the Arab world will henceforth be more active, sincere and direct, ANSA reported.

Reaction to Al-Jumayyil's UN Speeches -- Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami said in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio that Al-Jumayyil's speeches at the United Nations clearly outlined the aspirations of the Lebanese people.

Although HA'ARETZ reported that Israeli diplomats in New York privately described Al-Jumayyil's UN General Assembly speech as "disappointing and ungrateful" toward Israel, an Israeli political source cited by Jerusalem television affirmed that there is no anger or disappointment in Jerusalem over the Lebanese leader's remarks because Al-Jumayyil is in a difficult situation and "under pressure."

Egypt's AL-AKHBAR said Al-Jumayyil's General Assembly speech dealt a "big blow" to the Israeli Government's strategy of imposing peace through coercion and terror, MENA reported.

Military, Security Situation -- A WAFA report cited by Monte Carlo radio claimed that Palestinian fedayeen killed one Israeli soldier and wounded three others in an 18 October operation behind Israeli lines in the south. In the Ash-Shuf mountains around 'Alayh, a Lebanese Army unit entered Kafr Matta while the IDF reinforced its positions elsewhere in the area, according to reports by the Voice of Lebanon and the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio. The IDF spokesman in Lebanon said the Lebanese Army can deploy in the Druze villages, but the Israelis will ensure that the IDF presence overlaps that of the Lebanese, Jerusalem radio reported.

Israel

Knesset Meeting -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin ended the opening meeting of the Knesset winter session with an attack on Alignment positions and claims, according to excerpts of his speech carried by Jerusalem radio. Begin said there is no practical plan other than that of full autonomy as provided for in the Camp David accords. On the other hand, Alignment MK Yitzhaq Rabin asserted that there is no choice but to hold talks and sign an agreement on the border with Jordan, the radio reported. After the debates, the radio noted that the Knesset approved Israel's foreign and defense policy by 56 votes to 50.

Begin Interview -- In an interview with MA'ARIV, Prime Minister Begin said that because of his wife's poor health he may not be able to go to the United States in November and this problem would also influence his decision on serving as prime minister until the end of term in 1985. On Israel's political and security situation, he asserted that it has "never been so good."

Massacre Inquiry Commission Meets -- The commission of inquiry investigating the Beirut massacres met on 19 October, will begin questioning witnesses on the 20th and will ask the defense minister and chief of staff to testify next week, according to Jerusalem radio reports.

PLO

After meeting with Qatari leaders, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat flew to Saudi Arabia, according to Doha radio and SPA. While in Doha, 'Arafat said in a statement reported by AR-RAYAH that the PLO and Jordan have agreed to form a joint committee to follow up the issue of confederation between Jordan and a Palestinian state. Meanwhile, PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir disclosed that Jordan is prepared to amnesty soldiers who deserted the Jordanian Army and joined the PLO, Monte Carlo radio reported.

Reacting to U.S. unwillingness to receive a PLO official among the Arab committee that will shortly meet with President Reagan, Arab League General Secretary Chedli Klibi regretted U.S. links with Israel and called on the Americans to adopt a neutral posture, TAP reported. In his statement, which was published by a Tunisian newspaper, Klibi said that although the Arab states are concerned with the Palestinian question, they cannot take the place of the PLO.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces thwarted an Iranian attempt to attack positions in the central battle sector, resulting in 163 Iranians killed, an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio claimed. Tehran radio reported that Iranian operations launched in the same area on 19 October succeeded in penetrating Iraqi lines and killing or wounding 270 Iraqi soldiers.

Pakistan

Afghan Plane Crash -- An Afghan Air Force MiG-17 crashed in Baluchistan on 18 October and the pilot's body was handed over to an Afghan consul by Pakistani officials, according to Karachi radio reports. The radio indicated that the pilot was "probably a defector."

Ziaul Haq Press Conference -- Speaking to a press conference at the end of his visit to the PRC, reported by AFP, President Ziaul Haq expressed appreciation for China's efforts to normalize relations with the USSR. He said that in his meetings with top PRC officials, identical views were expressed on the situations in Afghanistan and Kampuchea. Ziaul Haq announced that Pakistan and the PRC will establish a ministerial committee to develop economic, scientific and technological relations. He denied reports of PRC nuclear technology transfer to Pakistan and revealed that he will visit India on 1 November.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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KHALID AL-HASAN INCLUDED IN DELEGATION TO U.S.

JN201050 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Rabat, 20 Oct (INA) -- The INA correspondent has learned that Khalid al-Hasan, chairman of the Palestine National Council's Foreign Relations Committee, will take part in all the unofficial meetings and contacts which the seven-member Arab ministerial committee will hold with U.S. officials outside the White House.

Reliable Palestinian sources have told the correspondent that Al-Hasan will accompany the committee during its meetings in Washington and New York and will participate in the consultations with the UN secretary general and the Security Council.

Khalid al-Hasan left Morocco yesterday for the United States to participate in the work of the committee, which is scheduled to begin its visit today under the leadership of King Hassan II of Morocco.

QNA Report

GF191106 Doha QNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Doha, 19 Oct (QNA) -- Press reports here said that Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, was chosen to represent the PLO in the 7-member Arab committee which will leave for Washington next Friday because he holds Kuwaiti nationality which will enable him to overcome the obstacle caused by the U.S. Administration representing the PLO in the committee.

Quoting Palestinian sources, the Qatari newspaper AR-RAYAH said the U.S. Administration knew about this selection and welcomed it. Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, stated during his visit to Kuwait that he designated Khalid al-Hasan to represent the PLO in the 7-member Arab committee. Khalid al-Hasan left for Morocco yesterday to join the committee.

CHEDLI KLIBI: U.S. SHOULD ADOPT NEUTRAL POSTURE

LD191220 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Tunis, 19 Oct (TAP) -- Following the U.S. Government's refusal to receive a PLO official as a member of the Arab seven-member committee which is to meet with President Ronald Reagan this Friday, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi said in a statement to the Tunisian newspaper AS-SABAH yesterday that the Arab sides regret that the U.S. Government ties its policy with links and pledges to Israel. He said: "We as Arabs believe that America, in its capacity as a major power, should adopt a neutral posture." He added: "As much as the Arab states are directly concerned with the Palestinian question because of solidarity and common interests, they could not take the place of the Palestinian organization, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

The Arab League secretary general called on the U.S. Government to arrange "for a poll, to be held under international supervision or under its own supervision, to find out who truly represents the Palestinian people."

PLO DEMANDS LEBANON RELEASE DETAINEES, PROPERTY

NC201130 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Beirut, 20 Oct (MENA) -- The PLO has demanded the reconstruction of the Palestinian camps that were destroyed during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the release of Palestinians who were detained during the combing operation which the Lebanese Army recently carried out in West Beirut and its southern suburbs.

In a message its Beirut office presented to Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, the PLO also demanded that real and just security be provided to all the Palestinians living inside and outside the camps and that members of the Lebanese internal security forces occupying the PLO office in Beirut vacate it so that the PLO can take it over and resume its work.

The PLO also demanded that Palestinians in Lebanon be detained only with a legal warrant and not because of their affiliation with Palestinian activity; that Palestinian medical, social, cultural and productive establishments be allowed to resume their usual activity and to recover their impounded property; and that buildings and apartments legally belonging to Palestinians not be seized.

Meanwhile, press reports today indicate that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has appointed Tawfiq as-Safadi as PLO charge d'affaires in Beirut. The reports say that in a few days As-Safadi will present his credentials to the Lebanese Foreign Ministry as the official in charge of the PLO in Lebanon.

PLO'S KHALIL AL-WAZIR ON JORDANIAN AMNESTY

JN191812 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1735 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], one of the leaders of the Palestinian Fatah movement, has stated that Jordan is prepared to grant amnesty for soldiers who deserted the Jordanian Army and joined the Palestinian Resistance. He said the Jordanian authorities had allowed these soldiers to visit their families in Jordan without creating any trouble for them. This proves that PLO-Jordanian relations have improved, particularly following last week's visit by Yasir 'Arafat to Jordan and his talks on a possible federation between Palestine and Jordan. King Husayn has granted amnesty to 736 Palestinians who had been wanted in connection with the September 1970 Jordanian civil war.

PRO-'ARAFAT ELEMENTS TO JOIN NATIONAL COUNCIL

JN201057 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Oct (INA) -- The magazine MIR'AT AL-UMMAH cites well-informed sources as saying that 40 members, the majority of whom support Yasir 'Arafat, will join the Palestine National Council [PNC] during its next session. This, the magazine adds, will involve the replacement of some members who oppose rapprochement with Jordan. The magazine points out that the new PNC members belong to the Palestinian popular and trade unions.

NEW PALESTINIAN WEEKLY TO BE PUBLISHED

LD190748 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] It was learned yesterday from occupied Jerusalem that a new Palestinian weekly magazine, edited by the editors of SAFA, will be published under the name AL-'AWDAH in Arabic and English to cover local and international events.

GULF AFFAIRSGCC INTERIOR MINISTERS CONCLUDE RIYADH CONFERENCE

Final Saudi Speech

GF191440 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Oct 82

["Text" of speech by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, at the end of the final session of the second GCC interior ministers conference held in Riyadh 17-18 October -- recorded]

[Text] May the brothers allow me to make a short speech before we conclude our conference. I thank His Excellency Brother Muhammad ibn Khalifa [Bahraini interior minister] for his nice speech and I thank all the brother ministers for their effective participation in our meeting. I also thank the secretary general and General Secretariat of the GCC for their successful efforts in preparing all things to make our conference run orderly and in a manner that made it discuss and deliberate things on clear, studied and coordinated grounds.

Undoubtedly, the GCC has made great progress in all fields in a short period of time. Undoubtedly, the security field which all of you represent here is of paramount importance in the cooperation of the GCC member states. Undoubtedly, also, we have made worthwhile progress in achieving many things. Furthermore, our deliberations of issues were positive, and I believe everyone hoped to finish all the issues listed on the agenda. Nonetheless, our aim is not to finish what we have but to finish it in a way that serves the common goals and interests. Therefore, the participants found that regarding the comprehensive and unified security agreement, which is one of the most important issues, some issues that arose during the discussion of this agreement needed to be settled, although we highly appreciate the efforts exerted by the experts or the committee of experts that met and gave us a perfect agreement which we all hope to sign as soon as possible, God willing.

I hope that everyone will understand that we, here and in a conference of this nature, are not concerned about appearances or some formalities, but we are concerned about depth, positive matters and constructive, useful and positive cooperation. On this basis and out of this concept our affairs are being managed, and we will achieve further cooperation and further positive action in that field shortly, God willing.

News Statement

GF191424 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Oct 82

["Text" of news statement issued by the GCC interior ministers conference following its concluding session in Riyadh on 18 October]

[Text] Their highnesses and excellencies, the GCC interior ministers, held their second conference at the headquarters of the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh on Sunday and Monday, 30 Dhuhiyyah 1402 and 1 Muharram 1403 Hegira (17 and 18 October). Out of their interest to bolster security cooperation among the GCC states, to complement the resolutions of their first conference and to accomplish integration in security affairs, the ministers studied and approved the recommendations submitted to them by the committee of heads of passports, immigration and labor. They commissioned the General Secretariat to complete the studies of some recommendations.

The ministers also studied thoroughly the plan of the comprehensive security agreement that was prepared by the experts committee. After exchanging viewpoints, and with the spirit of collective responsibility which necessitates focusing on collecting the points that are related to the security agreement plan, and out of their desire to provide the necessary elements that require additional research, the ministers decided to continue contacts until they complete the final details in light of the observations that were made during the discussions.

The ministers also studied the recommendations of the experts committee on the establishment of a center for security information that will be used in the preparation of qualified national cadres in accordance with the prerequisites of collective action. They decided to approve these recommendations and to commission the General Secretariat to take the steps to prepare the necessary studies.

Their highnesses and excellencies, the ministers, decided to hold their third conference after the General Secretariat completes the studies that have been delegated to it on the resolutions that were adopted during this conference.

OMAN

AS-SIYASAH CITES AMBASSADOR ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD191928 Kuwait KUNA in English 1618 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 19 (KUNA) -- Oman indicated Tuesday that it may soon establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and set the condition of a shift in the Soviet policy towards Oman and countries of the Gulf region, according to the Omani ambassador here.

Interviewed by AS-SIYASAH newspaper today on possibilities of a balanced relationship with the two superpowers, Ambassador Sa'ud Salim al-'Ansi did not exclude reconsideration of his country's relations with the Soviet Union. However, the Omani envoy stated, "This will depend on a conviction on the part of my government in a Soviet shift of their policies regarding Oman and countries of the region."

On relations with neighboring South Yemen, Al-'Ansi stated that a second meeting between officials from Oman and South Yemen will be held here towards the end of this month to sort out differences between the two states. The ambassador added, "If things go well between the two sides, another round of high-level talks will be held soon."

Kuwait has been mediating between the Sultanate of Oman and the Democratic Republic of South Yemen which supports the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, fighting against Sultan Qabus' regime.

A low-level meeting was held in Kuwait early this year between Omani and South Yemeni Foreign Ministry officials instead of undersecretary level as originally hoped for.

The Omani envoy praised the efforts made by Kuwait to create an atmosphere conducive to fruitful dialogue between his country and Democratic Yemen.

On possible threats to safety of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, Al-'Ansi assured his country's readiness to meet any such menace and said that "Oman will not stand alone in the battlefield in case of any attack by any party, especially when it aims at closing the Strait of Hormuz." He noted in this respect that his country is an Arab League member in addition to its membership on the Gulf Cooperation Council, founded in May 1981 and comprising Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar and Bahrain.

The Omani ambassador praised the positive results of the GCC oil ministers conference held last week in Salalah, Oman and described the meeting as "a new and important step" in oil coordination and cooperation among the Gulf states. Al-'Ansi said that the project of a petroleum industries complex area in Muscat adopted by the GCC oil ministers will greatly contribute towards the protection of Gulf oil exports against potential threats by directly transporting oil from production centres to the refineries located beyond Hormuz Strait transit zone.

In reply to a question, the Omani ambassador denied the conclusion of any military agreement for balanced and collective defence of the Gulf region to replace the joint Arab defence pact. "To my knowledge," the ambassador stated, "there is no military agreement between the Gulf states for balanced and collective defence. I am not aware of a freeze on the joint Arab defence pact." He described the current coordination amongst member states of the GCC as an effort to lay a solid basis for collective Arab action committed to our current regional, national and fateful causes.

Al-'Ansi emphatically denied the presence of any foreign troops on Omani territories and indicated that "facilities offered by the Sultanate (of Oman) to any friendly power at times of necessity is dependent on developments in the political and military situation in the region."

Oman was reported to have granted military facilities to the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in the Middle East. But recently it called off joint military exercises it intended to stage with American troops because of strong GCC representation.

QATAR

YASIR 'ARAFAT CONCLUDES VISIT 19 OCTOBER

Meets With Officials

GF191242 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Official talks between Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, the deputy amir and heir apparent, and Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, were held at Ad-Dawhah Palace at 1000 today.

On the Qatari side the talks were attended by Khalid ibn 'Abdallah al-'Atiyah, minister of public works and head of the mission escorting Yasir 'Arafat, and 'Abdallah ibn Khalifah al-'Atiyah, director of the office of the deputy amir and heir apparent. On the Palestinian side the talks were attended by Yasin ash-Sharif, PLO representative in Doha; 'Abdallah Muhammad; and 'Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah, alias Abu az-Za'im.

The deputy amir and heir apparent welcomed the Palestinian leader and conveyed to him the greetings of Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir. The two sides reviewed in a fraternal atmosphere the latest developments in the Palestinian question in light of the current Arab and international situation, particularly the PLO stand in the wake of recent developments in the area.

QNA has learned that the deputy amir and heir apparent has reaffirmed to 'Arafat Qatar's firm and principled stand in supporting the Palestinian people's struggles on both the political and military levels until they regain their legitimate rights and establish their independent state on their national soil under the PLO's leadership.

QNA has also learned that 'Arafat asked the deputy amir and heir apparent to convey his gratitude to his highness the amir for Qatar's positive and consistent stands on all levels.

At the end of the talks the deputy amir and heir apparent bestowed on the Palestinian leader the order of independence, which is the highest Qatari decoration, in appreciation of the magnificent heroic role of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces in confronting the Zionist invasion under the personal leadership of 'Arafat who led the battle on both the political and military levels.

Grants Interview

GF191550 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1050 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Dear listeners: Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, is visiting Qatar and is holding talks with Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, deputy amir and heir apparent. In an interview with a radio correspondent Yasir 'Arafat said: Undoubtedly we are passing through a new stage in the history of the Palestinian Revolution and in the history of the Palestinian and Arab struggle, in view of the fact that the Palestinian Revolution is the Arab nation's struggling vanguard. Yasir 'Arafat continued:

[Begin recording] We believe these essential points: that we are not only fighting in defense of our Palestinian people and Revolution but that we are struggling for the entire Arab nation, its future and dignity, and for our survival, the survival of the Arab nation. What happened in the fighting in Lebanon and in Beirut was undoubtedly an attempt to impose Israeli hegemony on the Arab nation. They came to try to subjugate the Arab nation. The result after 79 days of the siege of Beirut and 88 days of fighting demonstrated that the Israeli enemy is not that legend with which some of the military people and some officials of our Arab nation used to frighten us. Believe me, I say this with full awareness and despite the modern weapons -- indeed, the most sophisticated U.S. weapons -- with which the Israeli army fought, I have never seen this enemy as weak as it was during the fighting. This places responsibilities on the Arab nation because this means that the Arab nation needs only make a political decision to fight this enemy. Should there be such a political decision we shall be able to defeat it, liberate our land and liberate Jerusalem.

This enemy used all kinds of sophisticated weapons and enjoyed the unlimited support of the United States on the military, political, financial and information levels. The United States exercised its right of veto during those 3 months more than at any other time. It was not an Israeli operation, it was a U.S. operation in which remuneration was paid to Israel, to mercenaries in the Israeli army, to carry out this operation. They threw in 9 divisions, from a total of about 12 or 13 divisions, into Lebanon. What was the result? Imagine, nine divisions; that is, there remains three divisions. When I confront nine divisions, any move from any other side would have reached Jerusalem.

I say this for the historical record. Thus, I have never seen this enemy as weak as I saw it during the battle of Beirut, the battle of Lebanon. We called it the massacre of the Israeli generals. The enemy's losses were 21,560 casualties -- according to what Eytan said 3 weeks ago at the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and his statement was published in the Israeli army magazine. These figures are not ours. Some 318 tanks and 23 aircraft. What were our resources? I had no missiles, and my resources were limited, and yet we downed these aircraft with the fighters' determination. How often has a little company overcome a numerous company, by God's leave. [Koranic verse]

This is the most important thing, the new stage for which our Arab nation must plan. There is no doubt that we have problems. Our forces have been spread among nine countries. This is troublesome for any leadership. These forces have been distributed. This is one of the difficulties that is facing us. However, thank God, we are capable through our faith to find solutions to our problems. Training programs have now been drawn up for these forces to prepare them for the next stage. We believe that the demand for any right must be backed by military force. The world does not respect the weak; it respects only the strong. Therefore, we must prepare for the next stage.

There is the possibility of a flareup in the Al-Biqa' and in northern Lebanon, particularly as they are talking about withdrawals. However, no one has talked to us about anything at all. Therefore, what are they preparing for us? Will there be a new battle in the Al-Biqa'? Sharon is already bragging about this.

The Marines made a strange decision: Prior to the Sabra and Shatila massacre, Reagan did not let the forces stay 29 days. I wish he had let them stay for 29 days. He kept them there for only 14 days, and withdrew them 15 days ahead of schedule. Now he wants to retain them there for 6 months, and he wants to have 15,000 soldiers. This is strange -- are they part of the Rapid Deployment Force? Such things do not escape us in the Palestinian Revolution. The Americans should not think that they can play their tricks. No, we are alert to every step. They have assembled all their military machinery and hired this Israeli force. What was the result?

There is an expected military battle and there is a political battle which we will wage, God willing. There is an information battle. There are battles on all levels. Thank God the Revolution has emerged a giant and stronger than ever. It has more ammunition and support to face forthcoming battles. O mountain, no wind will shake you.

[Question] You have said in many statements that the talks between you and the Jordanian monarch and officials were positive, frank and constructive. How do you view the future of Palestinian-Jordanian relations?

['Arafat] No, don't let me say everything. They asked me and I did say the talks were satisfactory, frank, positive and constructive. We formed committees to discuss all the details. These committees are supposed to meet at the earliest opportunity. I left my brothers in the joint committee -- the [Jordanian-Palestinian] joint committee for the affairs of the occupied homeland has two branches: a political branch and a financial branch for supporting the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories -- to follow up all these matters. The Executive Committee will meet late this month, God willing, or in early [November], following the return of the first Arab delegation from London and New York, to discuss the results of what His Majesty King Hassan and the Palestinian and Arab delegation accompanying him will bring, God willing. We will discuss all these topics, including future relations between Palestine and Jordan. I was clear and frank about this matter, and what I said is recorded in the minutes of the sessions of the Rabat Arab summit conference in 1974. I said: "On behalf of the Palestinian Revolutionaries and fighters I am prepared to establish the best and closest unionist relations between Palestine and Jordan."

[Question] A seminar will be held with Palestinian brothers in Qatar at 1600 today. What topics will be discussed at this seminar?

['Arafat] It is not a seminar. I will be meeting with my Palestinian and Arab brothers so that I can talk to them freely. [words indistinct]

[Question] Thank you, and greetings to the great struggler Yasir 'Arafat...

['Arafat] [Interrupting] The great struggler is the RPG child. [end recording]

You have been listening to an interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat conducted by my colleague, 'Adnan ash-Sharif.

Makes Statement

GF191936 Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic 19 Oct 82 p 11

[Excerpt] Yasir 'Arafat has made a statement to AR-RAYAH in which he rejected the idea of schism, telling its advocates to eat their hearts out. He added that proponents of such allegations do not want to understand the nature of the Palestinian arena because everyone in the Palestinian Revolution has the right to criticize and air their opinions without any embarrassment. This is a basic rule in the Revolution and a main source of the Revolution's strength.

Yasir 'Arafat said our Revolution is undergoing a state of democracy which is one of the most difficult democracies in the world because it is the democracy of the gun.

In an indirect answer to criticism launched against his visit to Amman, Arafat said: I do not want to respond to those [critics] because they received the answer from the occupied territory which provided a decisive national referendum affirming its loyalty to the PLO and its confidence in the PLO's leadership.

'Arafat described his talks with King Husayn in Amman as frank, comfortable, positive and constructive. He pointed out that he agreed with the Jordanian monarch to form a joint committee in order to follow up the issue of confederation between Jordan and the Palestinian state in the interest of the Palestinian cause. Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] affirmed that he received complete response from King Husayn on establishing the strongest unity relations between the two peoples.

In response to the U.S. rejection of receiving a Palestinian delegate in the seven-member delegation, Abu 'Ammar affirmed that he has commissioned Khalid al-Hasan, a member of the Fatah Central Committee, to leave immediately for Rabat to join the delegation. Whether 'Arafat expected another rejection of the presence of Abu as-Sa'id [Khalid al-Hasan] in the delegation, Yasir 'Arafat said: When did I, who confronted them in Beirut, expect anything positive from them? The Israeli army was nothing but mercenaries for the U.S. Army carrying out a prepaid campaign. Yasir 'Arafat proved that by citing former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's confession to the Paris newspaper LE MONDE in which Haig referred to a U.S.-Israeli agreement with some Lebanese elements.

'Arafat described the sweep campaign being carried out by the Lebanese Army in West Beirut as a great shame. He asked if that was the reward of the Palestinians and poor Muslims who defended Beirut and the honor of the Arab nation.

'Arafat appealed to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and his Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan to put an end to this situation. He warned of the consequences of suppression because patience has a limit. 'Arafat asked again where the muscles of the Lebanese Army were when it was a few meters away from the enemy army that was besieging its capital.

'Arafat pointed out that the Palestine National Council's meeting will be preceded by a general popular congress comprising 1,200 Palestinian figures representing all categories and youths in order to discuss the post-Beirut phase. However, 'Arafat did not give a specific date for the convocation of the council or the congress. He said this will require adequate preparations to organize such a large number and organize them into democratic discussions.

Departs 19 October

GF191946 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1820 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Doha, 19 Oct (WAKH) -- Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, left Doha this evening following a 2-day visit to the State of Qatar. He was seen off by the Qatari deputy amir and heir apparent, Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, who held talks with him on the developments of the Palestinian question and the situation in the Arab arena.

'Arafat's visit to Doha came within the framework of his tour of a number of Arab states.

SAUDI ARABIA

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN JIDDA 19 OCTOBER

LD191948 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1905 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Jidda, 19 Oct (SPA) -- Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, arrived here tonight for a visit to the kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival at the airport by His Royal Highness Amir Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, amir of Mecca; Gen Salih as-Sudals, deputy commander of the western region; 'Abd al-'Aziz [word indistinct], director of royal protocol in Jidda; and Hafiq an-Natshah, the PLO representative in the kingdom.

Meets King Fahd

LD201046 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1010 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Jidda, 20 Oct (SPA) -- At noon today His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at the Royal Court here PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who arrived here last night on a visit to the kingdom. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation; 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Masuri, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; 'Atallah Muhammad 'Atallah, inspector general of the Palestinian forces; and Rafiq an-Natshah, PLO representative in the kingdom.

BRIEFS

ACTING HEALTH MINISTER -- Riyadh, Oct 19 (SPA) -- King Fahd today entrusted Dr Ghazi al-Gosbaybi to serve as acting minister of health. Former Health Minister Dr Husayn al-Jaza'iri was appointed as the World Health Organization's (WHO) regional director. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in English 1209 GMT 19 Oct 82 LD]

YAR

AL-'IRYANI GRANTS INTERVIEW TO AL-MUSTAQBAL

JN181209 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 16 Oct 82 pp 30, 31

[Interview with Prime Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani to AL-MUSTAQBAL correspondent As'ad Haydar in San'a' -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Why this vacillation in the unity march between the two parts of Yemen? Once there was enthusiasm about the imminent realization of unity, but this enthusiasm has disappeared and has been replaced by differences and occasional conflicts.

[Answer] The unity constitution is the best accomplishment in the unity march. This constitution was agreed upon in Tripoli, Libya in 1972 and is now pending approval of the leaders of the two parts, the People's Assembly and Consultative Council. It will then be subject to public referendum.

It took us 10 years to map out the constitution; therefore, we need some time to complete the other steps. However, this does not mean that we need another 10 years to complete them. It is significant to note that the unity effort has not been suspended nor has it been killed off in its infancy. This is something positive when compared with the other unity experiments in the Arab homeland. It goes without saying that the unity between the two parts of Yemen is more urgent than any other unity between two other Arab countries.

[Question] How do you assess the Fes summit resolutions and what is the YAR's role on the Arab level?

[Answer] The Fes summit was a basic element in reactivating the situation. What took place at Fes was good and positive. Also, the Arab unanimity regarding the Palestinian issue was positive. It is important now to follow up the implementation of the resolutions. The seven-member committee of which we are not members will undoubtedly discharge this task. We will be quite prepared to play any role within the context of the Fes summit because we have excellent relations with the Palestinian Revolution. We will never hesitate to adopt any political and military stand in support of the Palestinian issue.

[Question] What is your position toward King Husayn's recent initiative regarding the setting up of a confederal state between Jordan and Palestine?

[Answer] My impression is that this initiative does not revoke the second article of the Fes resolutions. At any rate, it is still under discussion.

[Question] From your point of view, how long can the implementation of the Fes summit resolutions wait -- in other words, can this be a long wait?

[Answer] The decisionmakers at the Fes summit cannot ignore the time factor and cannot postpone or hesitate in implementing the resolutions, because time is no longer in our favor. If the resolutions remain unimplemented for long, the reactions will absolutely not be in the interest of the area.

[Question] What is your position on the conflict in the Horn of Africa and did you try to stop the existing deterioration?

[Answer] We are against the aggression, irrespective of the aggressor.

We are maintaining good relations with Somalia and Ethiopia and we are trying to bring their views closer. This will go on because instability in the Horn is not in the interest of anyone, including us. We have sent envoys to the Somali and Ethiopian sides. It is significant that so far no one has said "no" to our endeavors or to our envoys. We are unilaterally conducting our endeavors without any coordination with or authorization by any side.

[Question] What about the Gulf war?

[Answer] Our position toward the war is pan-Arab; namely, with Iraq. However, during the first stage -- namely, when Iraqi forces entered Iranian territory -- we endeavored to reach a solution, although we sent volunteers to Iraq. This was a token gesture and not to rectify the balance of power. All the Yemeni volunteers have returned home.

As for the current situation, we demand the departure of the Iranian forces from Iraqi land. We now believe that our position was not unjust with regard to Iran. We still have relations with Iran, their embassy is still in San'a' and the dialogue still exists between us. We believe that all this is in the interest of the two sides.

[Question] What is the nature of your relations with the GCC and do you intend to join it?

[Answer] The GCC functions within the framework of the Arab League Charter, which encourages bilateral and collective cooperation, which is why we support it. However, we have not asked nor have we been asked to join the GCC. Therefore, there is no problem regarding this issue.

[Question] What is your stand on recent developments in Lebanon and on President Amin al-Jumayyil?

[Answer] Our constant position is the commitment toward Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity; this in itself constitutes the only opening. We will cooperate with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who was elected democratically, and we will support all his steps for unifying Lebanon and restoring sovereignty.

[Question] How do you rate your relations with the Soviet Union and the United States? Do you intend to continue to purchase Soviet arms after what has been said about the Soviet arms in Lebanon's war?

[Answer] The majority of our arms are Soviet made. We have been dealing with the USSR for 20 years. Despite this old cooperation, we did not erect barriers against Western arms, including those from the United States and France. We believe there is no proof showing the failure of the Soviet arms. All that has been said on this was press reports.

Nevertheless, our relations with both [countries] remain trade oriented. We are working to confine the training know-how to the Yemeni elements. Training at the war and police colleges is now 100 percent tackled by Yemeni officers. Training at the air force college is still being tackled by foreign officers because it is only 1 year old.

MUBARAK RECEIVES SEKOU TOURE IN CAIRO 18 OCTOBER

NC181123 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Guinean President Ahmed Sekou toure arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 4-day official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. During his stay, he will hold talks with President Husni Mubarak on the international situation in general and the situation in the Middle East in particular. The talks will also deal with African issues of mutual interest that can strengthen bilateral relations in various fields.

The Guinean president was received at Cairo airport by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and senior officials. At the end of the reception ceremony, the president accompanied Egypt's important guest to the Presidential Palace in Al-Qubbah, where his excellency will stay during his visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The two presidents will exchange speeches at a dinner banquet President Husni Mubarak will give this evening to honor Egypt's guest on his visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Talks Begin 19 October

NC191418 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Guinean President Sekou Toure held their first official session of talks at Al-Qubbah Palace this morning. At first, the session was confined to the two presidents. The session lasted 3 hours, after which members of the Egyptian and Guinean sides joined the talks.

After the session, Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif stated that the most important subjects the two presidents discussed were the Middle East issue and the Palestinian cause. He said the views of both the Egyptian and Guinean sides were identical. He said the discussions also dealt with Egyptian-Arab relations.

The two presidents will hold another session of talks tomorrow morning that will be devoted to discussing the Iraq-Iran war. Meanwhile, bilateral meetings will be held between the ministers concerned. A joint statement on President Sekou Toure's visit to Cairo and his talks with President Mubarak is scheduled to be issued tomorrow.

This morning, Guinean President Sekou Toure visited the memorial of the tomb of the unknown soldier as well as the tomb of the departed leader Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. He laid a wreath on each tomb and read the first surah [of the Koran] for their souls. He then went to the tomb of the departed leader Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, laid a wreath and read the first surah for his soul.

AL-AKHBAR SAYS AL-JUMAYYIL SPEECH 'BLOW' TO ISRAEL

NC192332 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2315 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 19 Oct (MENA) -- AL-AKHBAR stresses that the speech Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil delivered at the UN General Assembly constitutes a big blow to the Israeli Government's strategy of imposing peace through coercion and terror.

In Wednesday's edition, the paper says: The Lebanese president's speech came as a surprise to the Israeli leaders, because the president demanded Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, stressed the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and concentrated on Lebanon's Arab affiliation and the strong relationship between the Lebanese problem and the Middle East conflict.

AL-AKHBAR demands that the Israeli Government assimilate the dimensions of this new lesson, and asks: Will Begin and the members of his government realize that peaceful relations among states cannot be imposed by force of arms?

In conclusion, AL-AKHBAR affirms that with this speech, the Lebanese president has made a good start. The next step must be taken by the Israeli side by admitting that the logic of force is wrong, and withdrawing immediately from all of Lebanon now that all the excuses that Israel has previously given have vanished.

ABU GHAZALAH TO ATTEND NAVY DAY CELEBRATIONS

NC191701 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Alexandria, 19 Oct (MENA) -- Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense and war production minister, will attend the celebration to be held this Thursday on naval forces day.

On this occasion, the defense minister will inaugurate the technical center for fitting and developing naval missiles west of Alexandria.

This center has the latest technology and computers. It was established to contribute to the development and modernization of naval forces missiles.

The commander of the naval forces, Vice Adm Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad, held a news conference today in which he said that the navy ships on which the Egyptian flag will be raised include submarines from China, Ramadan-type missile launches produced in Britain -- which include a weapons system from France and Britain and are equipped with U.S. equipment -- as well as October-type launches received from Britain and developed in Egypt, which include equipment from various sources.

The naval forces commander said the new naval units include four rescue units from the Netherlands. He pointed out that Egypt is responsible for various sea rescue operations in the Mediterranean.

'ALI DEPARTS FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO ITALY 18 OCT

NC181052 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali left Cairo for Rome this morning to attend the meetings of the joint Egyptian-Italian committee on strengthening bilateral relations in the economic, commercial and technical fields. The committee will begin its meetings in Rome on Friday.

During his visit, Kamal Hasan 'Ali will also hold talks with Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo on the situation in the Middle East, particularly the Palestinian issue, in light of the proposed initiative and the European role in giving momentum to the peace process in the area, and also on the grounds that Italy is one of the 10 EC states and has a tangible interest in peace in the Middle East -- an interest manifested by its participation in the tripartite peace-keeping force in Beirut as well as in the multinational force in the Sinai.

The discussions will also deal with Italy's participation in a number of development projects in Egypt.

'ALI TO VISIT TURKEY FOR TALKS 3 NOVEMBER

NC191528 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will pay an official 3-day visit to Turkey on 3 November during which he will hold talks with the Turkish foreign minister on current issues, the Middle East situation, bilateral relations and the means to strengthen them.

RAMADAN INTERVIEWED ON WAR, ARAB AFFAIRS

PM200907 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Oct 82 p 3

[Interview with First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan by Qasim as-Samawi in Baghdad -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The Fes summit conference adopted a resolution stipulating that any aggression against any Arab territory is considered aggression against all Arab states. The Iraqi Government has called on the Arab states to support Iraq in its war with Iran. Sudan has announced that it wants to send forces. How do you assess the Arab reaction?

[Answer] We believe that the Fes summit resolutions on the Iraq-Iran war represent the minimum acceptable for ensuring Arab solidarity on such an issue, despite the long time that elapsed before the Arabs adopted such a resolution.

As for the situation after the new Iranian offensive in the central sector near Mandali, the Arab reactions and the extent to which these reactions have been in harmony with the Fes resolutions, the question should really be addressed to the Arabs.

We believe that what matters is not just issuing resolutions, in the form of statements to the media or in the form of agreements, but also the bearing that such resolutions have on an existing reality and in practice. This is of the utmost importance for giving the Arab people confidence, whether in relation to this war or any other matter agreed to by the Arabs. An Arab agreement on such an important matter should mean real and direct action; otherwise the Arab people will develop a certain conviction or react differently to important resolutions that the Arabs do adopt to defend themselves and their future. We are very hopeful that the Arab attitude will develop to at least the minimum required within the framework of the Fes summit resolutions. We wish that it could be much better and more advanced than the Fes summit resolutions.

[Question] With President Saddam Husayn you attended some of the Fes summit closed sessions. Press reports later spoke of a dialogue that took place between President Saddam Husayn and President Hafiz al-Asad. They quoted Al-Asad as saying the following to the Arab kings and heads of state: If I am the one responsible for the deterioration of relations between us to this level, then I hereby resign and seek political asylum in Morocco. Did this really take place?

[Answer] I cannot answer or comment on one specific phrase or part, because reporting the discussion in brief cannot give a full picture. The discussion was wide-ranging, and the presidents, kings and amirs who heard it are the ones who can appreciate its importance and determine who was right.

We believe that what happened during the conference gave all the Arab kings and heads of state the opportunity to learn the truth of the matter and the truth about the Syrian leader, who really epitomizes everything that is against the Arabs by supporting the Iranian rulers, who have been fighting the Arabs by fighting Iraq for 3 years, on pretexts that would not convince a child, let alone officials such as those who attended the Fes conference. Because of what was agreed during the conference, we cannot discuss this matter in detail.

[Question] It was reported that a meeting, with Arab mediation, might be held between Presidents Saddam Husayn and Al-Asad 2 months after the conference, with a view to settling what can be settled between them. Is there agreement to hold such a meeting?

[Answer] There is no agreement.

[Question] Is Iraq prepared to attend such a meeting?

[Answer] It is not a question of being prepared or not. There is no agreement, not after 2 months or 3 months. I mean that there is no specific date or time. Iraq is not against any idea of Arab solidarity and the elimination of differences to ensure Arab unity, strength and dignity, in any form and with any state.

However, with Syria this is the formula we have arrived at: Our dispute with Syria is not over the question of means. Syria now supports the enemy that is fighting us. Let it stop that and then we will talk. We have severed relations with Egypt and suspended its Arab League membership. Is Egypt's position worse than that of Hafiz al-Asad?

[Question] What about Libya's support for Iran in its war against Iraq?

[Answer] The Libyan position on the war should not surprise us, because that position is not isolated from Libya's general conduct and the role it plays in subverting Arab interests and fueling Arab differences by interfering in the affairs of other states and provoking non-Arab states with which the Arabs are supposed to be cementing their friendship. Libya's attitude has been particularly negative toward the African states. This is why we see nothing strange in the Libyan attitude.

[Question] You said previously that the Algerian mediation was continuing. It was also announced a few days ago that the Islamic Good Offices Committee headed by President Sekou Toure was going to visit Baghdad. What in your opinion is the position now on the question of mediation? Is the Algerian mediation still continuing?

[Answer] As far as we know, the Algerian mediation is continuing, and we hope that its efforts will bear fruit. The Islamic Conference committee's mediation is also continuing, but we have seen nothing tangible yet. It has also been announced that the Palme mediation will continue. We welcome the continuation of all these mediation efforts, and we hope that one or all of them will succeed in promoting a solution. We do not know who stands the best chance of succeeding. What is certain is that a positive attitude from the other side would definitely help them and facilitate the task of these commissions or mediation efforts.

[Question] How do these commissions view the attitude of Iran, which has rejected the UN resolutions, and what is the way to bring Iran to the negotiating table?

[Answer] The way is to continue the war and the confrontation with ability and faith in defense of the territory and borders. The intrinsic power is the main factor. The mediation and other efforts remain additional, not basic factors.

[Question] How do you view Egypt's decision to recall its ambassador from Israel during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon?

[Answer] We do not say that the new situation is not useful, positive or marginally different from the previous phase, but we had hoped that the move or position taken would be better than that. We believe that the Zionist invasion of Lebanon presented Egypt with a golden opportunity to return to the Arab fold. What hope is there for that now?

Of course the Egyptian rulers or ruler are in a better position to assess the circumstances and possibilities as far as their stance is concerned. However, as an Arab speaking from my position I would have liked to see a more daring move, because what the Zionists did warrants more than just the recall of the ambassador, which does not represent even the minimum required as a step on the road to peace.

[Question] How would you describe Iraq's relations with the GCC in general and Saudi Arabia in particular?

[Answer] We repeat that any meeting, cooperation or federation between one Arab state and another or involving a group of Arab states is welcomed by us. We welcome it more when it is based on facts, foundations and principles that add to the strength and capabilities of the Arab nation, which is in dire need of strength. We are advocates of unity and we know that the desired unity cannot be achieved overnight, or directly as a merger or anything else.

We see unity as an Arab joint stand or stands on important and fundamental issues, and we see it as coordination as well as total or partial economic, political, social or cultural integration. We see it as a federation in one form or another. What is important is that we realize that what is needed is a positive atmosphere and positive circumstances to strengthen the pan-Arab spirit among the Arab people and officials and thus restore the Arab nation's old image.

In regard to our relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, we think they are normal. There are continuous contacts and consultations on many issues despite the known fact that our views are at variance on certain issues. We could say that the atmosphere of relations is positive, and we hope for more because it means Arab glory and strength.

FRONT DISCUSSES GULF WAR, ARAB SITUATION

JN172120 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Oct (INA) -- The Progressive National and Patriotic Front in Iraq held a meeting here tonight under Na'im Haddad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and secretary general of the front.

The discussions focused on the Iraq-Iran war, the latest efforts and results of the committees mediating an end to the war and the Arab countries' attitude toward Iraq's call for the implementation of the Fes summit resolutions on supporting Iraq and enforcing the collective Arab defense pact.

The discussions also dealt with the current Arab situation, particularly with regard to the Fes summit resolutions, the Zionist entity's invasion of Lebanon and its perpetration of savage crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and the development of the positive relationship between the PLO and Jordan, especially after the recent meeting between the Jordanian monarch and Yasir 'Arafat. The conferees also drew up a program for the forthcoming movement on both the internal and external levels.

COMMUNISTS SAID REINSTATED IN GOVERNMENT

PM180825 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 16-22 Oct 82 p 11

[From "AL-MAJALLAH correspondents' dispatches"]

[Text] Well-informed Arab sources have revealed more information about the Iraqi communists recently released in accordance with an agreement between Baghdad and Moscow under which Iraq received advanced Soviet weapons. According to this information, the number of those released is 280 and most of them have been reinstated in their government positions. The sources say this step by the Iraqi Government has led to a split within the ranks of the Iraqi Communist Party for lack of a unified position on the question of rapprochement with the Iraqi Government.

TEXT OF MARWAN AL-QASIM AL-QABAS INTERVIEW

GF200444 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Oct 82 p 17

[Interview with Foreign Affairs Minister Marwan al-Qasim by AL-QABAS correspondent Anita Sanokijyan in New York -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] How are Jordanian-Palestinian relations proceeding?

[Answer] We have a Palestinian-Jordanian committee that usually meets in Amman to discuss the best ways to help the Palestinians living under occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Any important issue is usually discussed with our Palestinian brothers frankly and respectfully. We, as Jordanians, and they, as Palestinians, view the situation with a fair amount of rapprochement and realization of the real threats we face. I am not trying to minimize the role of others, but if you look at the map you will find that Jordan has been chosen as a target for aggression. As you know well we are principally concerned with self-defense whether from the political side or others.

However, no one in any way can claim that peace can come as a result of using military force. When a country launches an aggression against another this action means nothing but a lack of balance. This may end in a truce, but the truce is temporary and this is not what is required in the region.

[Question] In order to avoid aggression or confrontation does Jordan seem prepared to play the role that was prescribed for it by President Reagan's initiative, that is, to speak on behalf of the PLO?

[Answer] No. The Palestinians will speak for themselves and if the Palestinians require Jordan's help they must say so. Neither Jordan nor any other state can talk on behalf of the Palestinians concerning the Palestinian problem.

[Question] May I conclude that Jordan does not want to play the role it has been assigned by President Reagan's initiative? The United States has continued to say that Jordan must play a leading role in a certain direction.

[Answer] Yes. We say Jordan is ready to play its role in the initiative if there is an Arab consensus that Jordan will speak in the Palestinian's name. At that moment, the Palestinians must make a decision either join it or request it to speak on their behalf.

[Question] Wasn't there a collective agreement in Fes that someone would speak for the Palestinians?

[Answer] We are all committed to our decision that the PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO must say what it has in mind.

[Question] I feel that you minimize Jordan's role and this does not agree with what the Americans have been saying: that Jordan is the important center in the Middle East.

[Answer] It is indeed. We are an important center with regard to war and peace in the Middle East, but this does not mean that Jordan will take a role in the initiative without the conditions it has requested. We feel that in order to avoid another relapse in the peace efforts in the region, the main party must express its opinion, inclinations and whether it accepts or rejects the proposals that have been put forward.

We feel that the atmosphere is ready for action and that there has been a positive change in the stand of the U.S. Administration. If we compare the stand of the present U.S. Administration with the previous stands we find that several issues have been clarified and have been clothed with flesh, bone and teeth. This encourages us to begin a dialogue and build on its basis.

[Question] Do you think the Palestinians intend to accept these U.S. ideas or this new U.S. climate as a first step toward the negotiation table?

[Answer] This question should be asked of the Palestinians themselves. You may note some of the statements that have been made by Yasir 'Arafat during his conversation with Congressman McCloskey. For example, 'Arafat accepted all UN resolutions. What do you conclude from this?

The UN resolutions don't call for Israel's destruction and this is a positive phenomena because at the same time these resolutions call for regaining Palestinian rights. This in itself represents a petition that can be presented to those who have influence in the world in order to impose a change and in order to bring these rights to life. All this must be taken into consideration and it does not in any way contradict with what President Reagan said, nor does it contradict with what Secretary of State George Shultz said when he talked about the legitimate rights that the Palestinians cannot be denied and about self-determination. All these are important indications and we believe they are positive indications because they indicate a great change within in the U.S. Administration toward the Middle East problems.

[Question] What did you mean when you said in your speech before the UN General Assembly that the solution to the problem is not present outside the Palestinian land? Where in your opinion is the land of Palestine?

[Answer] The Jordanian interpretation is that Jordan has accepted UN Security Council Resolution 242 which was issued in 1967. This resolution called for a complete withdrawal in exchange for complete peace. This concept has recently been expressed by others outside the Arab world and this is an encouraging step. Thus, the territories that were occupied in 1967 -- that is, the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Arab Jerusalem -- is where the Palestinian entity should be established.

This also applied to the Golan Heights, but the Golan is to be negotiated over by Syria and Israel, not the Palestinians and Israel.

[Question] Sometimes the Palestinians demand the entire historic Palestine, such as the Galilee for example.

[Answer] For this reason we must ponder on Resolution 194 that was adopted in 1948 recently and which states that Palestinians who don't wish to return will be compensated.

[Question] Can you explain to us briefly Jordan's official stand on President Reagan's initiative?

[Answer] As I said before, the initiative contains some very positive points and this positive change is suitable to establish a serious dialogue that can be counted on.

VOL BROADCASTS AL-JUMAYYIL WHITE HOUSE SPEECH

NC191725 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Excerpts] We begin our newscast with a direct dispatch from our team accompanying President Amin al-Jumayyil on his tour of world capitals.

We have been notified that about half an hour ago, the meeting between the Lebanese and U.S. Presidents at the White House ended. The meeting lasted 2 hours and ended with talks that were described as having been important and useful. Now to our team in Washington:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] President al-Jumayyil says in his own voice:

[Al-Jumayyil] Mr President, I am greatly honored to make an official visit to the United States as the president of Lebanon. The Lebanese people deeply appreciate and will never forget your courageous and decisive effort to help put an end to my country's suffering.

The American commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a free and democratic Lebanon has been fundamental to our survival. We see the U.S. role as the indispensable ingredient to bringing peace, not only to Lebanon but to the whole region as well. We firmly believe that President Reagan's initiative has created unprecedented opportunities for peace. We in Lebanon intend to be active in the search for peace with all nations of the region.

The relations between the United States and Lebanon are not only between our two governments -- they are between our two peoples, who share the same heritage and adhere to the same values and principles of democracy and liberty. The 2.5 million Lebanese have an almost equal number of close relatives in the United States. We value enormously the unique ties provided by these American Lebanese, who are among the most loyal of all Americans. As Lebanese, they have a leading role in keeping our two countries together.

Lebanon has been the most recent, and for us the most painful example of the assault upon free men by the forces of darkness and occupation. We have fought to retain our freedom, and the strength of our resistance has earned us not only a (?resuscitated) pride in ourselves but also a reentry into the ranks of the free world.

With equal resolve, I, together with my people, am committed to the immediate removal of all foreign forces from our soil and to working hand in hand with all sectors of Lebanese society to build a nation in which all citizens have equal privileges, rights and responsibilities.

The historic U.S.-Lebanese relationship remains the cornerstone of building this new Lebanon. America's friendship and assistance, not only in peacekeeping and peacemaking, but also in reconstruction and rebuilding our armed forces, are vital. We intend to carry our share of the responsibility of this partnership by a full and reciprocal contribution to all U.S. goals in its noble endeavor as the leader of the free world. Thank you. [end recording]

PAPERS PRAISE AL-JUMAYYIL'S UN, U.S. VISIT

NC200818 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] This morning's papers are unanimous that President al-Jumayyil's visit to the United States has been successful and expresses the aspirations of all Lebanese.

The papers note that President al-Jumayyil stressed in his talks the U.S. role in helping Lebanon and in restoring the Lebanese Government's control over all Lebanese territory.

An AL-'AMAL editorial says: If Beirut constitutes the U.S. gate to the Middle East and the Gulf, Washington constitutes Lebanon's gate to peace and reconstruction. The important talks between Ronald Reagan and Amin al-Jumayyil are of historic value not only because this is the first visit of the mind by a Lebanese president to the United States, but because this placed the friendship between the two countries in a clear and stable framework.

AL-'AMAL adds: President al-Jumayyil's historic visit to New York and Washington has restored the Lebanese presence in the world and laid the foundation for relations with the United States. Lebanon will be unique because it is the only one capable of being the Arab world's advocate and the western world's mediator in the Arab world. It is the distinguished cultural role for which it came into being. It is the role to which President al-Jumayyil wants Lebanon to be devoted, naturally, within the framework of a stable and eternal Lebanese entity.

Under the heading "The Lebanese-U.S. Dialogue," AL-BAYRAQ says: President Amin al-Jumayyil continues his tour from one success to another. The unanimous Lebanese welcome of his speeches in the UN and the Security Council has Arab and international unanimity. President al-Jumayyil's statements are those of Lebanon. Had they listened long ago to Lebanon, they would have spared themselves and Lebanon a great deal of trouble. AL-BAYRAQ adds: As is well-known, President al-Jumayyil is asking the United States to be not only the full partner but the full supporter of Lebanon -- the full supporter in political, economic and military affairs. All these come under three headings: evacuation, the army and the accord.

AS-SAFIR deals with President al-Jumayyil's visit to the United States and features U.S. President Reagan's public pledge to support Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity. It says: Washington still insists on the need for a speedy withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. At the same time, Lebanese President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil praised the U.S. role, which is indispensable in bringing about peace in the area. He declared that Lebanon is determined to work for peace with all countries in the area.

AL-ANWAR says: It appears that the Arab world is taking quick strides in its approach to Washington. Egypt has a strategic alliance with the United States and a peace treaty with Israel. Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states are taking into consideration the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in calculating their own self-defense. Jordan is preparing to play a large role in the U.S. settlement. King Hassan II is preparing to leave for the White House heading a delegation including the Syrian, Saudi Arabian and Tunisian foreign ministers. The most important current demand by the PLO is that President Reagan accept the presence of its representative, Khalid al-Hasan, within the Arab delegation.

AL-ANWAR adds: This unanimous Arab stand regarding Washington's role in the area is coupled by a Lebanese unanimity for settlement through the United States. Therefore, President Amin al-Jumayyil is satisfied with the talks with President Reagan. The United States insists on saving Lebanon; on withdrawing the foreign forces from it, equipping its army and on reconstructing it. Lebanon is more insistent, because the matter is a strategic game for the United States while it is a question of survival and destiny for Lebanon.

AL-JUMAYYIL INTERVIEWED ON LEBANON'S FUTURE

PM190945 Paris LE MONDE in French 19 Oct 82 pp 1, 3

[President Amin al-Jumayyil interviewed by Lucien George in Beirut -- date not given]

[Text] Beirut -- President Amin al-Jumayyil received us on the terrace of his B'abda Palace, the roof of which is being repaired by workers after being damaged by gunfire from various sides -- nobody being spared even by the symbol of the state. His office is installed behind thick plates of reinforced glass riddled with bomb splinters and, during the interview, he remarked with an exasperated gesture that the Israelis "are still there, 200 meters away...."

The "invasion army" -- how can it be forgotten? -- comprises 70,000 men, the Syrians have 30,000 in the country and the Palestinian Resistance still has 10,000 fighters who escaped the [apparent word drop]. Finally, the Lebanese Forces have been fighting Mr Junblatt's militants for almost 2 weeks.

That shows how fragile the "peace" is, being bolstered by foreign aid in the form of the international force and, more particularly, by the ardent desire of the vast majority of Lebanese to close the chapter of divisions. The head of state, who is determined to restore the state's authority, answered our questions with determination and confidence.

[Question] The consensus which carried you to the post of head of state has gradually taken on the dimension of national unity. How will you be able to ensure that it maintains that character and does not deteriorate into a mere compromise?

[Answer] Nobody here wants any more compromises, not even former enemies. That notion is a thing of the past, and the Lebanese have realized what it has cost them and at the same time have distinguished the essential point, in other words, they have distinguished the nation's higher interests from secondary interests and political maneuvers. This is true of the left which for a long time confused Lebanon's interests with those of the Palestinian Resistance. I understand why it supported the Resistance in political action, but I do not accept that the Lebanese should give priority to the Palestinian over their own country's cause.

That awareness is now the driving force in Lebanon's rebuilding. If there are extremes now, they are in the sphere of Lebanonism. I can tell you that our second republic has been born. I will sweep away all the vicissitudes of the past which brought us to the present situation.

[Question] What reforms are you envisaging for renewing the state? Are you going to turn to new men?

[Answer] Yes, and Lebanon has plenty. I have sounded the rallying call to those "new men" and notably to our senior cadres working abroad. Many have already replied to that appeal, to the detriment of their own financial interests, in order to take part in the great rebuilding adventure. It is very encouraging for me to see them returning and, at the level of president, to see a whole team of young cadres now in place who have shouldered major responsibilities in foreign countries. Do not forget that numerous Lebanese companies operating from foreign bases are preparing to return to the country, as are large international companies which are waiting to return to Beirut and offer us their services.

[Question] Is Mr Shafiq al-Wazzan's Cabinet a transitional government?

[Answer] It is a reconstruction government and its formation illustrates what I told you about compromise. It is a first step toward showing that things have changed.

Moreover, the people have clearly understood that and the message has been received. We cannot afford transitional solutions in any sphere because time is short. From the first Cabinet meeting, we drew up an ambitious plan to reform the administration and rebuild the country.

All Weapons Will Be Collected

[Question] The Lebanese Army's implementation of the security plan in West Beirut was both greatly appreciated and strongly criticized. Could it not take simultaneous and parallel action in East Beirut?

[Answer] It is important to remember the circumstances and context of that operation. At first there was one imperative: The Israeli Forces' withdrawal from West Beirut. Our soldiers entered that area to ensure that withdrawal. They were faced with a crucial task: To identify and check arms and supply dumps distributed by the Palestinian Resistance in nearly all the basements of residential buildings, churches, schools.... I am not exaggerating when I say that it was necessary to avert a catastrophe which would have cost the lives of thousands of citizens if those stocks had exploded. Therefore, going through West Beirut with a fine-tooth comb was and still is vital, because even now the danger has only been half averted. What has been discovered is terrifying. The same mopping up operation will be carried out in East Beirut now that things are going a little better and the army's presence there is becoming effective rather than just symbolic. But it must be said that the problem is not as acute as in West Beirut, since the weapons are concentrated in the hands of the "Lebanese Forces" and not scattered. Moreover, in the eastern suburbs Israeli units are hindering our army's deployment. They are there, 200 meters from the Presidential Palace. Even if their presence is symbolic, they are preventing the complete deployment of our troops.

[Question] The Lebanese Army itself has been criticized....

[Answer] Yes, because it was easy to wage a tendentious campaign against it; by visiting our men, I wanted to make them feel that I fully supported them. Abuses have been minimal compared with the scale of the operations, and such cases of abuse have been punished. After 8 years of lethargy, we could not ask the impossible of an army which has been deployed to protect the citizens and the freedom and democracy that form Lebanon's foundation.

[Question] That is probably true, but the National Movement is already describing as a "sham" the planned collection of arms in East Beirut. Is it true that most of that arsenal has been evacuated to the mountains?

[Answer] Let us not confuse what is essential and what is secondary in this sphere either. In the west, as far as I know, neither Mr Walid Junblatt's nor the Murabitun's arms were collected. Some headquarters were searched, but not the central offices of Lebanese parties, including the Communist Party, or the homes of political leaders. If a parallel can be drawn between East and West Beirut it can be done at this level and not between the weapons of the Palestinians and other groups. Nonetheless, all weapons will be collected, and my principled position is unshakable: Lebanon can only be saved if its army has a monopoly of weapons on national territory, and that implies primarily the departure of all foreign forces. Once that has been done, the "Lebanese Forces" will be the first to respect that monopoly.

[Question] Are you sure of that?

[Answer] Absolutely. They were at the head of those who supported my candidacy and, after my election, all their leaders placed themselves at my disposal. We will achieve national unity.

[Question] What kind of army do you plan to build? Your brother Bashir spoke of between 100,000 and 150,000 men.

[Answer] Before determining how many men there will be, it is necessary to identify the needs and missions of one army: the defense of the borders, control of the territory and protection of public freedom and, finally, protection from foreign threats. Each of those three missions will be entrusted to a specialized corps. Thus restructuring could affect the army, general police and internal security forces. National service will be implemented without undermining our socioeconomic system.

[Question] When and how do you plan to secure the withdrawal of the foreign Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces? In what order will that be done?

[Answer] We have received international promises that Lebanon will regain its sovereignty within a short period. Will it be before the end of the year? I do not dare to believe too much in that, but I hope those promises will be kept, since Mr Habib in particular has given us assurances. Our army is being strengthened with that prospect in mind, but let us be realistic: The problem is beyond our control and is tied to the interests of the foreign powers involved here. President Regan values our sovereignty and is really helping us to regain it. Moreover it is to study means of pursuing that process that I am going to meet with him and with President Mitterrand and President Pertini. We are counting on a kind of international "Marshal Plan" to which the Arab countries and world financial bodies would contribute in addition to the United States. Europe's assistance would be primarily technical.

[Question] If the Israelis made their departure dependent on the conclusion of a peace treaty, would you sign it?

[Answer] They are no longer talking of that. We are seeking real peace, not an imposed or artificial peace. Moreover, any decision on a peace treaty could only be envisaged by Lebanon in the framework of a national consensus. Would any other be viable?

[Question] What place do you think Lebanon has in the Arab world? Should it change from what it was in the past?

[Answer] Our country is an essential member of the Arab community and a founding member of the Arab League. Nothing has succeeded in diverting it from that role and it does not plan to deviate from it. Nonetheless, our relations will henceforth be "tougher," more frank and direct. We have paid a high enough price for the Arab causes and can face all the Arabs without any shame.

[Question] What kind of relations do you hope to have with Syria?

[Answer] The same kind of relations as with the rest of the Arab world: friendship, mutual respect and perhaps, in view of the geographical context, closer cooperation and hence preferential relations in some spheres. But they will be reciprocal and not unilateral privileges.

[Question] Will you establish relations?

[Answer] That would be entirely natural, since it is anomalous for there to be no such relations. Maintaining that anomaly could only mean that one country entertained territorial or national ambitions over the other. Now the Syrian leaders have always denied cherishing such ambitions with regard to Lebanon.

Israel Responsible For the Massacres

[Question] The use of the multinational force has been strongly criticized. Are you going to ask for it to be strengthened or expanded to include other countries?

[Answer] Now that the opposition aroused by the plot against the Lebanese Army has been removed, the multinational force can pursue its mission with serenity. Its expansion is possible, and some countries have offered their services.

[Question] Do you plan to accept the Moroccan offer to send troops?

[Answer] Why not? The Moroccan king has stood by us in extremely difficult times, as have other Arab leaders. He was the first to send an envoy to me after my election and to place himself entirely at my disposal.

[Question] What in particular are you asking from France, where you are going to meet with Mr Mitterrand?

[Answer] Rather than make any requests, I have to thank Mr Mitterrand for constantly heeding Lebanon's call. This is the first time since De Gaulle's day that a real and uninhibited tangible effort has been made by France to help our country. Its aid, and that of the other countries whose contingents form the multinational force, has been substantial and effective. French soldiers have been killed and I pay tribute to them. In my meeting with President Mitterrand I will strive to strengthen and develop the very special dimension of French-Lebanese ties and our common cultural heritage.

[Question] What progress has been made in the investigation into your brother's assassination? Who do you think armed the suspect?

[Answer] A suspect has been arrested but the nets have not yet been fully drawn in. It will be necessary to examine the archives of certain intelligence services. I cannot be more explicit.

[Question] What progress has been made in the investigation into the Sabra and Shatila massacres? Will possible Lebanese perpetrators of that crime be tried?

[Answer] Put that question to the security service which was on the spot during the massacres. Neither the Lebanese Army nor the Lebanese state was present in that zone which, at that time, was sealed off and was being examined with a fine-tooth comb by the Israeli army. The international conventions on war are clear; the occupier is directly responsible for what happens in the territories he controls.

Nonetheless, I have ordered an inquiry. If your question refers to the accusations leveled at the "Lebanese Forces," I can tell you quite definitely that no decision to do that had been taken at their level or within the Phalange.

The Palestinian Civilians' Fate

[Question] What do you plan to do with the non-combatant Palestinians in Lebanon? Is it true that you want to reduce their number from 450,000 to around 50,000?

[Answer] The Lebanese Government will fulfill all its obligations to the Palestinian civilians living on its territory whose papers are in order. As winter approaches, we will rehouse them. As for those who have entered our country without papers, they must return whence they came. That must be done, especially since almost all of them arrived in our country and were manipulated within the framework of the great plot against our country.

[Question] Different presidents have different styles. How would you define your style as head of state?

[Answer] By direct, uninhibited action. Lebanon needs to be rebuilt and a challenge taken up in 1982 -- the challenge of restoring real sovereignty and hence freedom and democracy without which Lebanon would be inconceivable. I am taking up that challenge.

KHADDAM LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON 20 OCTOBER

JN200846 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Damascus, 20 Oct (SANA) -- 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Damascus this morning for Washington. He will take part in the seven-member Fes Arab committee delegation in order to explain the summit's resolutions to the UN Security Council's permanent members.

AL-BA'TH COMMENTARY SCORES 'JORDANIAN ROLE'

JN200758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 20 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the Egyptian regime's suspect attempts to broaden and Arabize the Camp David base and on the Jordanian endeavors to contain the PLO, AL-BA'TH writes: Reports from various sources have indicated that very soon the Jordanian role will emerge within the context of the Camp David accords and based on the initiative as declared by the U.S. President last month. In short, these reports explained that the U.S. State Department is currently preparing for political negotiations in Washington between the Camp David partners and with King Husayn to resume the talks and guarantee a new Arab position that would accept the preplanned U.S.-Zionist solution to the Middle East crisis.

AL-BA'TH goes on to say that, at a time when the Jordanian mass media are working to make their new role appear pan-Arab and based on the Fes consultations and resolutions, the U.S. State Department and Zionist circles are reiterating that this new Jordanian move is purely a new Arab involvement in the Camp David plans without any preconditions.

Continuing, AL-BA'TH says that those who noted the outcome of the talks in Washington between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir would realize that the wheel of the political and strategic coordination between Washington and Tel Aviv is forging ahead and is still in good health.

AL-BA'TH adds: Perhaps the unsurprising emphasis on the Jordanian role in the U.S.-sponsored capitulatory talks is best displayed in the support given to it by the regimes of defeatism and collusion, which are now hailing the courage of Husayn ibn Talal in defense of the Arabs and his readiness to sign treaties regarding their crucial issues.

In conclusion, the paper says: We in Syria view all this from the same all-embracing visualization through which we dealt with all the developments that emerged in the Arab political action arena. We also see that this Arab move with its new Jordanian symbols is doomed to failure because it lacks the support of the masses and because it contravenes the values on which the Arab struggle has relied in this century. The luck of the Jordanian regime's role will not be better than that of As-Sadat. History repeats itself whenever the need arises.

KNESSET MEMBERS CONTINUE DEBATE 19 OCTOBER

'Sources' on Begin 'Moderation'

TA191354 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Oct 82 p 2

[Report by the Knesset correspondent]

[Text] Knesset sources said last night that the prime minister intentionally made a moderate speech, in which he sidestepped the direct points of differences with the United States. Some of Israel's arguments regarding U.S. positions were intentionally directed at King Husayn.

This orientation, according to the same sources, indicates the prime minister's efforts to improve relations with the United States and prepare a comfortable background for a visit to Washington next month.

Report on Begin, Rabin Speeches

TA191825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1714 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Our Knesset correspondent tells us that Prime Minister Menahem Begin opened his concluding speech in the Knesset a few minutes ago, where the political debate which began yesterday at the opening of the Knesset winter session, is now ending. We will go over to you, Arye Golan:

[Arye Golan -- live] Well, [it is] the same as it was yesterday, without heckling and without loud confrontations. The subject discussed by the 30 members who took part in the 2-day debate was: Greater Eretz Yisra'el or territorial compromises? A few minutes ago, then, Prime Minister Begin went up to the rostrum, and he is now concluding the debate. We will now hear part of his speech:

[Begin -- live or recorded] There will be a debate, and we will win it. I have a suggestion for you, MK Shim'on Peres, a very ancient suggestion: "Let him not that girds on his armor boast himself as he that puts it off." [1 Kings 20: 11]

Only 15 months ago there was a night when you appeared the winner, but, come morning, the victory was as if it never existed and instead became a proverb and a byword. I remember that night. I heard the announcement. Here comes the moment of victory; here comes the new prime minister of Israel. Why should such a mistake be repeated? To say something once which leaves a bitter taste, to friend and foe alike, is fair enough, but to repeat the same phenomenon? This is not nice, not wise. After 15 months, Mr Peres is trying to dispute the results of free and democratic elections in Israel. This I call a retroactive dispute of the election results.

Peres claims the Alignment today has more votes than the Likud. What does it mean, "Today there are more votes?" When was the number of votes, or the ratio between the various numbers, decided if not on the night of tabulating? After the citizens went to the polls? True, the Citizens Rights Movement [CRM] joined the Alignment. It received 27,721 votes. But I remember the CRM leader calling in its election campaign not to vote for the Alignment, to understand that there is a need for the small parties in the Knesset as well.

I remember the campaign of that party and of other parties, more or less similar in their number of members, that the small parties have a special mission in the Knesset, therefore do not vote for the Alignment, vote for us; vote for CRM. Did Mrs Aloni conduct a referendum among the 27,000 unknown citizens, whom she does not know, except her own husband maybe, or maybe a few more relatives? Did they give her the mandate to pass 27,000 votes over to the account of the Alignment?

Afterwards, it so happened that two Likud members, how do they say, came back home. Very well, I wish them success in the home they returned to. The index was over 15,000 votes. These two members conducted propaganda and information [campaigns] for the Likud. They called on the public to vote for the Likud. They went over to another faction, this can also happen in a free parliament. But did they take with them 30,000 votes and add them to the count of the Alignment votes? Did they ask 30,000 citizens if they could do this? This is a complete absurdity to claim after 15 months: We have more votes than the Likud. The fact is that in the last elections the Alignment received 708,536 [corrects himself] 708,566 votes, and the Likud received 718,941 votes -- a difference of over 10,000 votes.

Can you make light of 10,000 people, MK Peres? And here we are, we accept the verdict. If it was the other way round, I assume that you would have tried to form a government. It is a difficult question whether you could have succeeded or not because on that same night that you announced yourself as the next prime minister, I already knew that I would form the government and not you, because I had contacts with the parties who were candidates for the coalition in those hours, and I was silent, I did not rush to immediately publicize victories. There is time until morning; why the hurry? So, after more than a year to claim that, because of this drawing over of a few individual people, who did not receive any authority from those who cast votes a different way, for a different idea, to claim that by this, all of a sudden, there is a basic change in the constellation of power in the Knesset is a vain claim. And it will not help you...[Begin interrupted in midsentence]

[Golan] Well, as we hear, there is a change in the atmosphere and there is an argumentative summing-up speech by Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Among those taking part in the debate this afternoon was MK Yitzhaq Rabin from the Alignment.

There is no choice, he said, but to hold negotiations, and to sign a peace [treaty] on the eastern border with Jordan. The Jordanian option should not be made light of. Minister Shostak is asking him from the Cabinet desk, What does Jordan have to be with Judaea and Samaria? This is your basic mistake. Rabin reiterates the claim that negotiations should be held with Jordan.

[Begin Rabin recording] I was born in this country; I do not like expressions such as "a light unto the nations," or "the chosen people," but I certainly do like "a source of inspiration for values." And, if we become a nation that subjugates some 2 million Palestinians against their will, we will not be capable of doing this. It will not work, to be a source of inspiration, without a link between the people of Israel in Eretz Yisra'el, and the Diaspora of the Jewish people. Without the link between the Diaspora of the Jewish people and the people in Israel, our main Jewish future is in danger.

And it is because of this -- not with joy but with pain, in this period of Jewish history, in this period the State of Israel -- there is no alternative but to agree to hand over parts of Eretz Yisra'el, if this leads to peace. Not a withdrawal to the Green Line. The conclusion is the partition of the country. [end recording]

[Golan] That was Yitzhaq Rabin. And at this very moment, the prime minister is answering those very words from the rostrum. Let us listen:

[Begin, picked up in midsentence -- live or recorded] ...the internal truth. The division of Eretz Yisra'el and peace are two contradictory things. There is the experience of 19 whole years behind this statement. Eretz Yisra'el was divided. Jerusalem was divided. Bethlehem was not in our hands. Jericho belonged, after the famous convention [in 1949], and was annexed to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Was there one day of peace? Negotiations were conducted, and for once they brought a positive result.

Mr Peres did something yesterday that maybe many Knesset members did not notice, but it was strange, surprising. In one stroke he abolished the chance for arrangements [Heskem] with Husayn, and his chance for forming an alternative government. How did he do it? After all, this is interesting to know.

This is what he said yesterday: Yes, of course an arrangement [hesder] should be made with Husayn that the following territories, the Jordan Rift Valley, Gush 'Ezyon, the northwestern Dead Sea, and the surroundings of Jerusalem will be under the control -- hear, hear -- and sovereignty of Israel.

I will say this seriously, quietly, even privately: Will you be able to announce, on the basis of all the rich information you have, based on your trips around the world and your connections with heads of states and presidents, that King Husayn will sign a peace treaty with you if you tell him that he should know that all these territories in western [as heard] Eretz Yisra'el are for us, and the rest of Judaea and Samaria, will be for you?

I am telling you Mr Peres, and again recognizing truth you cannot deny this, your suggestion has no chance. You can say to me, "Your suggestions also have no chance," and I have an answer for this. This is why we suggested the way which your friend, MK Yitzhaq Rabin, gave his blessing to: autonomy, with an interim period. This is on the agenda without a doubt; this is possible without a doubt. What did you want, that all at once, in but a few years that the whole world would change its opinion after you accustomed them to this?

[Golan] In a short while the prime minister will end his speech and the Knesset will confirm the government's announcement with the majority of the coalition votes. The second winter session of the tenth Knesset is on its way now, and this is all for the time being from the Knesset.

More on Rabin Speech

TA191729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Report on speech by Yitzhaq Rabin to the Knesset in Jerusalem on 19 October]

[Text] The former prime minister, Yitzhaq Rabin, has said that there is no alternative to an agreement to give parts of Eretz Yisra'el to Jordan if this leads to peace, without our being forced to retreat to the 1967 borders.

Yitzhaq Rabin has said that we have reached a point where we must reply to the question: With whom will we conduct negotiations over our eastern border? Because most of the public is against the PLO, there is one possibility and that is to negotiate with Jordan and sign a peace treaty with it.

At the same time, Israel's security requires defensible borders, which are not the 1967 borders. Yitzhaq Rabin revealed that at one time the Jordanians proposed a peace agreement according to the 1967 borders, and the Alignment government turned this down.

The danger, he said, is not as it is presented by Menahem Begin: the katyusha or artillery range. The danger is that Judaea and Samaria will be a springboard for armor concentrations. This can be prevented by stationing the IDF along the Jordan Rift Valley, among Jewish settlements.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli comments that Yitzhaq Rabin was the last of the opposition speakers in the Knesset political debate. Very soon the prime minister will conclude the debate.

More on Begin Speech

TA191953 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Oct 82

["Excerpt" of closing speech by Prime Minister Begin to the Knesset on 19 October in Jerusalem]

[Text] [Begin videotape] [Begin] There is no other plan today, you will be surprised to hear. The only plan is autonomy with an interim period. And during the interim period everyone will put forth his demands according to his rights. This is quite permitted according to the Camp David accords. Whoever signed cannot and should not now decide in advance the result of the interim period, no way. We wrote publicly, in policy guidelines, what is our right according to our opinion. But even then, there will be autonomy. We will not want to interfere in the daily life of our neighbors. Full autonomy according to all the conditions: We will grant it and we will guard it. There is no other practical plan.

All the plans brought up by Mr Peres are theoretical; they have no basis in reality. The Arabs are not even ready to listen, so what do you do in the meantime? You do not achieve peace; you do not sign an agreement [heskem], but you do give up a part of Eretz Yisra'el. This is the only result. There is a generation, the last generation in slavery, the first generation for redemption, who lived to see Jerusalem united, the towns of our God being returned to us. Should this generation, on its own initiative, offer to divide its inheritance, its homeland? Woe to the ears that hear this. [end videotape]

Knesset Approves Policy, 56-50

TA191830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Report by Jack Katzenell from the Knesset -- live]

[Text] Continuing the political debate, Mordekhay Gur of the Labor opposition said the issue today was whether the future character of the State of Israel, would it be Jewish and democratic, or would it be effectively a binational state with a subject Arab population. The other major issue, Gur said, was whether Israel would be able to live with its Arab neighbors in peace. With the government's policy of annexation, it would not, he warned. Gur rejected the government's charge that the Labor opposition had harmed Israel's image. I was abroad during the tragic events in Beirut, he said, and it was the government's actions and statements that did the damage. The opposition demonstration helped to restore the balance and saved Israel's image.

For the coalition, Yiga'el Hurvitz launched an attack on the Jordanian option proposed by the Labor opposition, and on the Reagan plan. Make no mistake about it, he said, it is the 1967 borders we are being offered.

Yitzhaq Rabin of the Labor Party stoutly defended the Alignment's policy of territorial compromise. He said the majority of the Palestinian Arabs could live in a Jordanian-Palestinian state as proposed by Labor, and the security arrangements on which Labor would insist would ensure that the West Bank never became a marshalling ground for a massive Arab attack on Israel.

Summing up the debate for the government, Prime Minister Begin said that because of Israel's actions in Lebanon, and because the Likud government had refused to give up Judeaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, Israel had never been more secure. He predicted that one day the nations of the world would recognize Israel's right to all of Eretz Yisra'el. It was because successive Labor governments had accepted the 1948 borders for 19 years that foreign governments had got used to this and were not prepared to change their mind. There had often been negotiations during that period, but not once had it led to peace, Prime Minister Begin said.

The vote has just been taken and the government's motion, endorsing Israel's foreign and defense policy, has been adopted by 56 votes to 50.

'SOURCES CLOSE TO SHAMIR' ANGERED BY REPORTS

TA191309 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Oct 82 p 2

["Exclusive" report from New York by Yosef Pri'el]

[Text] New York -- Sources in Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's entourage expressed anger and surprise yesterday over the reports leaked in Israel in an effort to create a negative impression of the results of Shamir's talks in Washington.

Israeli sources in the United States even pointed an accusing finger at Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, who they believe is trying to torpedo the chances for a settlement in Lebanon and the improvement of the atmosphere between Israel and the United States that was achieved during Shamir's visit.

Sources close to Shamir totally denied the reports released in Israel that the United States had threatened to cut its aid to Israel because of Israel's attitude toward the Reagan plan. The sources said that the talks were characterized by an attempt by both sides to underscore shared interests rather than differences, and they repeated what Shamir himself said, that a significant improvement had occurred in bilateral relations.

The State Department spokesman also vigorously and officially denied that in its contacts with Israel the United States had threatened to cut aid.

Israel's ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arens, said last night in a meeting with journalists in New York that whoever has a hand in the leaking of such reports does a disservice to Israel. "This concerns journalists and those who leak false information -- apparently purposely distorted," Arens said.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO AL-JUMAYYIL STATEMENTS

'No Anger, Disappointment'

TA191957 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] A political source has told our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram that there is no anger in Jerusalem or disappointment over the remarks made by Amin al-Jumayyil, because the Lebanese president is in a difficult situation and is under pressure.

'Reservations, Disappointment'

TA201004 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0953 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem this morning expressed deep reservations and disappointment with the remarks Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil made in the United States yesterday, including his statements opposing direct arrangements with Israel.

Our political correspondent Gad Becker reports that the positions Al-Jumayyil presented in Washington, according to reports from the United States, are at least partially surprising and disappointing to Israel.

Our correspondent notes that in the wake of contacts with Christian figures in Beirut in the last few days, Jerusalem had formed a more optimistic evaluation about the chances of discussing permanent arrangements in Lebanon.

'Negative, Ungrateful'

TA191413 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Oct 82 pp 1, 2

["Exclusive" report from New York by Shlomo Shamir]

[Excerpts] New York, 18 Oct -- Lebanon is preparing to develop close relations with the Arab countries, mainly Syria, and will be cautious in its ties with Israel. This, according to observers here, is the main message contained in Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's speech to the UN General Assembly. He clearly hinted at his support for the right of the Palestinians to an independent state "on Palestinian territory," and said that Lebanon is ready for peace with all the nations of the region.

Observers noticed that Al-Jumayyil's speech did not contain even a single positive reference to Israel, and there were those who said that the speech was negative with respect to Israel.

Privately, Israeli diplomats here described the speech as disappointing and ungrateful toward Israel.

In his speech to the UN Security Council, the Lebanese president supported extending UNIFIL's mandate, but claimed that the force is unable to fulfill its role in its present format.

Al-Jumayyil said that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon had caused UNIFIL to find itself frustrated and unable to fulfill its function. He praised Syria and the PLO for evacuating Beirut, and made no mention of Israel. He again mentioned the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

Israeli officials here viewed this speech, as they did his speech in the General Assembly in the morning, with gravity.

Labor Party Reaction

TA191337 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The Labor Party says that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's statements against Israel require a thorough Cabinet rethinking of its goals in Lebanon. The Labor Party's reactions team issued a communique stating that it is now clear beyond any shadow of a doubt that those who dispatched the IDF to war, with the hope that it would alter the political map in our region, and would result in peace between Israel and Lebanon, made a grave mistake. The Labor Party urges a sobering up from illusions, as it put it, and a return to the national goals that have guided Israel's security policy ever since the state was established.

REPORTAGE ON DRUZE-PHALANGIST CLASHES 15-19 OCT

Shaykh Tarif Interviewed

TA150845 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Oct 82 p 3

[Text] Kafr Yasir -- All Druse are brothers and cannot stand idly by when the Phalangists in Lebanon harass their relatives, the Israeli Druse spiritual leader Shaykh Amin Tarif said yesterday.

In an interview with THE JERUSALEM POST, Tarif, 84, said many of their relatives have been killed, injured or kidnapped in Lebanon, since the beginning of Operation Peace for Galilee. The situation is severe in 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf where the Israeli army has a large number of units, he said. The Druse leader said it was impossible to stand by in the face of what is happening because Israeli Druse serve in the army and some of them took an active part in the war.

They have the right to urge the government to order the army to put an end to any kind of harassment or humiliation of their kin in Lebanon, the shaykh stressed.

On Wednesday, THE POST reporter in Metulla reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin had instructed Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Rafa'el Eytan to try to stop the clashes. "When an enemy attacks our brothers in Syria and Lebanon, we feel as if we ourselves have been attacked and we are ready to do our utmost to help them," Tarif said with emotion.

He also appealed to the Lebanese president and the prime minister to put an end to Christian attacks on the Druse.

Tarif and several hundred dignitaries, chairmen of local councils and religious leaders crossed the border into Lebanon via the Good Fence in Metulla yesterday.

They intend staying two days or more in south Lebanon, visiting a Druse shrine and conferring with Lebanese Druse leaders. The Israeli Druse have already promised to exert their influence on the prime minister and the defense minister to have them order the army to intervene and put an end to the violence between the Druse and the Christians particularly in Kfar Mata and 'Bayh villages, near where further sporadic clashes were reported yesterday.

According to Lebanese sources, the two sides used mortars, bombs, rockets, artillery and snipers. At least three persons have been killed and about 15 wounded in incidents since last Thursday.

The residents of 'Alayh, mostly Druse, went on strike yesterday to protest the fighting. Druse dignitaries are to meet today with Druse leader Shaykh Majid Arsalan in an effort to stop the fighting.

THE POST reporter, who visited 'Alayh several times this week, learned that many Israeli soldiers are not enthusiastic about intervening because the intercommunal enmity is very deep and they do not want to anger either of the rivals. Nevertheless, Israeli soldiers patrolled alley streets yesterday to avert clashes.

The Phalangists claim they started the battles when local Druse refused to hand back homes and property abandoned by Maronites during the 1975-6 civil war. They also claim many Druse joined the leftist organizations and allied themselves with the PLO "against the national interest."

But the Druze reject these allegations as groundless, saying they have not taken over Christian property and that only some of them joined the leftist militia headed by Walid Junblatt, as some Maronites have done in West Beirut.

17 Lebanese Druze Arrested

TA151134 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] Druze sources in Israel have told our correspondent Yo'el Dar that the Israeli authorities have recently arrested 17 Druze who are members of Walid Junblatt's militia. This report has not been confirmed by official sources.

The Druze sources claim that the IDF has arrested and interrogated several Druze in Lebanon for their part in anti-Israeli activities, cooperation with the PLO and their influence on the bloody clashes between Druze and Christians in Lebanon. Our correspondent points out that these clashes have aroused ferment among Israeli Druze. Reserve officers have sent telegrams to the prime minister asking him to intervene in order to end the battles.

The president's adviser on minorities affairs, Kamal Mansur, has warned that if the Christians massacre the Lebanese Druze just as they did in Sabra and Shatila, the State of Israel would be blamed for this bloodbath and nobody would be able to claim that he had not known or seen, as it was claimed by various figures following the carnage in the refugee camps.

Speaking to the ITIM correspondent, Mansur said that the Druze leadership in Israel was no longer controlling the members of the faction, particularly the young ones. According to him, rumors have spread that Druze IDF soldiers are going to take off their uniforms and go out to help their brethren in Lebanon. He added that due to the situation in Lebanon, a serious crisis of confidence had erupted between Lebanese and Israeli Druze. The former claim that they had been misled by the Israelis who promised them that the IDF would protect them and prevent the Phalange from harming them.

Sharon Statement

TA151515 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1430 GMT 15 Oct 82

["Announcement by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon" -- ITIM headline]

[Text] [no dateline as received] The IDF is using various and immediate measures to help the inhabitants of Lebanon maintain a normal, calm life. The incidents that have occurred over the last few days in the Maronite areas populated by Druze and Christians originate in disputes that have been in existence for many years, and have become even worse over the last few years. It is to be hoped that these tensions will be resolved with the stabilization of the new administration in Lebanon under the Presidency of Amin al-Jumayyil.

The State of Israel has an interest in maintaining the normal life of all sectors of the population throughout Lebanon, and is showing special sensitivity to the peaceful relations among the various sects. Accordingly, the IDF is taking immediate and firm steps aimed at preventing any violent clashes, as far as possible, springing from those many age-old tensions. It is to be hoped that the different sects in Lebanon, and the Government of Lebanon will, for their part, guarantee to make every effort for rebuilding normal relations among the different sects.

The Israeli authorities, for their part, have appealed to all those involved with a call to cease any activity likely to worsen the situation.

Navon Comments

TA151658 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1615 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] Tel Aviv, 15 Oct (ITIM) -- "It is my opinion that every effort must be made to stop the clashes between the Phalangists, whom we have supplied with arms, and the Druze, whose brothers are fighting in the IDF. I am happy that the prime minister has indeed instructed the defense minister and the chief of staff to do this, all the more so as we will again be accused of responsibility for what happens in Lebanon," President Yitzhaq Navon said today in a lecture he delivered at the weekly meeting of the Commercial and Industrial Club in Tel Aviv.

The president recalled that the Druze in Israel were recruited into the IDF and the border police. He also pointed out that there were bereaved fathers and mothers in the Druze sects, and there were cemeteries in Israel in which Druze soldiers were buried who were killed in Israel's wars. "There are those who are watching us from the sidelines to see how we act toward the Druze. It is true that there has been progress in this sphere, but what is now happening in Lebanon also has implications for the Druze in Israel, as it did on the Golan Heights."

On the Arabs of Israel, the president said that there were more than half a million Arabs in the country who were citizens of Israel. "There are those who want there to be no Arabs in Israel; and there are those who do not want Jews to be here. This will make no difference in either case; we have to live together, Jews and Arabs. If we must live together, let us turn what has been determined into something helpful, after all this is a population which, practically speaking, has kept faith with the country. As for thoughts, only God examines people's hearts. The war in Lebanon was traumatic for them, because those who were killed or wounded there are their relatives, who fled to Lebanon when the state was established."

At the same time, Navon pointed out, the spiritual problem of the Arabs of Israel would be solved when there is peace between us and our neighbors. In his opinion there is a need to meet with the Arabs who live in our midst, and it is a pity that sometimes we behave as though this issue referred to as the Arabs of Israel does not exist. "If we meet and talk, we will see how much the two peoples resemble each other."

Later in his remarks, the president appealed for an end to verbal violence, since this violence could turn into real violence. "Disputes cannot be resolved through violence. Israel is a democratic country and freedom of the press and argument must be preserved in it. It is impossible to stop freedom of argument, even if it is sometimes undesirable. Argument among friends adds honor to the country."

The president pointed out that he expects that in another 30 years tension between sects will have almost completely disappeared. It is true that there will be crime and abandoned youth, but we can calmly expect a better future. He added that what is disturbing, in his view, is the use being made of the sects issue for political gains. The elections are approaching and this genie will be let out of the bottle. During the last elections very delicate fabrics were torn concerning the party and sectional backgrounds, and there are people who, for the sake of a temporary and doubtful gain, do not know where they are leading the public.

In conclusion, the president commented that what worries him is actually the gap between the religious and secular communities. In his opinion, the religious communities' separate education, which provides almost no opportunity for a meeting between religious and secular communities, is to our disadvantage. "It is a pity that the two chief rabbis do not go to speak with those who are not religious. Rabbi Kook used to go to kibbutzim, for example. What is happening today is that if someone meets with another, it is not a meeting. It is a rift. Only if common schools are maintained and an effort is made to come closer, to speak and to talk, will it be possible to lessen the distance in these cases."

The president of the club, Dr Hayim Teichman, conducted the meeting and made the opening remarks.

Drori on IDF Deployment

TA152005 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1845 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Commander of the Northern Command Maj Gen Amir Drori interviewed by Shalom Oren -- place, date not given]

[Excerpt] [Begin videotape] [Question] Major General Drori, you said that the IDF tries not to interfere. Does that mean that the IDF encourages the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the area of Druze-Phalangist clashes in order to strengthen the supervision by the government there?

[Answer] Definitely. We called on the Lebanese authorities, the army and the police to maintain internal security in those areas. Up until now our successes in this area have been small.

[Question] And the minute the Lebanese Army finishes its deployment, does the IDF mean to evacuate this area?

[Answer] Our deployment in Lebanon is connected to a totally different set of considerations. This is being dealt with now by the political echelons, and the IDF will act according to the decisions reached. [end recording]

Israeli Druze Appeal to Begin

TA161729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] The leaders of the Druze in the Galilee and the Karmel villages, led by Shaykh Amin Tarif, have called on the members of their sect to postpone for the time being all demonstrations, strikes and protest actions against the harassment of the Lebanese Druze by the Phalangists. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that at a rally that ended this afternoon in the village of Julis, the Druze leaders also asked for an urgent meeting with the prime minister and defense minister. They thanked Menahem Begin for deciding to prevent harassment of the members of their sect, but asked him to carry out this decision.

IDF Remains in Ash-Shuf Area

TA171510 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] There is no indication in the villages southeast of Beirut that the Lebanese Army will replace IDF units that entered the area to separate the Druze from the Christians. Our correspondent reports that the IDF is still holding positions in the Ash-Shuf villages, positions it took over the day before yesterday. Earlier, Beirut radio has reported that the IDF, who had maintained calm in the area, would leave there today and be replaced by the Lebanese Army. The broadcast said that this had been decided before President Amin al-Jumayyil left for a visit to the United States.

IDF Arranges Cease-Fire

TA171838 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] An initial arrangement to stop the exchanges of fire between the Druze and the Christians was achieved this evening in Jabal Lubnin through IDF mediation.

According to decisions and directives, the IDF took upon itself the role of peacemaker in the region of Kafr Matta, Qad'un and Bi'wirta, at least until the arrival of the Lebanese Army. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports from Beirut:

[Gus -- live or recorded] According to Druze witnesses who gathered at the regional rally in Kafr Matta, the Israeli officer who represented the commander of the Northern Command promised that it would be the IDF that would preserve order in the region of Jabal Lubnin. The IDF will arrest anyone bearing arms, the officer said. The IDF will prevent armed people from wandering around the area.

On the other hand, the Phalangist roadblocks will be decreased, and Israeli soldiers will join them in order to prevent acts of revenge against the Druze. The Druze who attended the meeting were pleased. They hope that now peace and security will be guaranteed in the area, although the personnel of Walid Junblatt, the leader of the Progressive Socialist Party which is hostile to Israel, do not forget to point out that in fact it was Israel that brought the Phalangists to the area and thus created the problem.

We all prefer the Lebanese Army, said Druze spokesman Shaykh Fadlallah al-Haqq, and we await its entry any day, but the Lebanese Army will not enter as long as the IDF is in the area. Is this what the government has announced, I asked. Well, Fadlallah said, the general who attended the meeting promised that the IDF would leave the Jabal Lubnin area within a week, that is, after Amin al-Jumayyil's return from the United States and Europe.

[Druze spokesmen -- in English -- apparently recorded earlier] Well, they are taking the role of the Lebanese Army, and they are protecting the people; they are being the police.

[Gus -- in English] When will the Lebanese Army come in?

[Answer] We hope that they will come within a week.

[Question] And the Israeli army will leave the area?

[Answer] That's what they have promised.

[Question] Who, the Israeli army?

[Answer] Yes. The general was here now. He promised that the moment the Lebanese Army will come in, they will go out.

[Gus] Only two Christian representatives participated in the meeting in Kafr Matta, the commander of the sector on behalf of the Phalangists and his aide. There were rumors that the commander of the Northern Command, Maj Gen Amir Drori, would take part in the rally and give it his protection, but although he toured the area, he did not come to the rally.

There was a higher level rally today in the home of the Druze leader, Majid Aarsalan in 'Alayh. At that meeting, which was held after representatives of Christians and Druze met with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, ministers and parliament members, shaykhs and notables took part. The decisions made at that meeting were apparently the foundations for the decisions of the Kafr Matta meeting, and it is the IDF that will take upon itself the role of implementation, the role of the police, for a limited time.

In the meantime, the IDF presence is very prominent in the Druze villages that are the focus of tension. There is the question of what will happen during the week in which Amin al-Jumayyil is staying in the United States: Will the Phalange leaders take advantage of the time for a demonstration of force?

Will peace be maintained? There is no answer to this in the meantime. We must wait and see if the Phalangist roadblocks indeed are removed and whether Christian refugees will really be allowed to return to their homes in the Druze villages.

Druze IDF Officers Seek Role

TA172113 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Dozens of Druze reserve officers in the IDF met this evening in the western Galilee village of Yasif. They decided to ask IDF authorities to appoint Druze officers to serve as mediators in the Druze villages of Lebanon. They also decided to send five officers to check the situation in the town of 'Alayh.

The ITIM correspondent in the western Galilee reports that meetings were also held this afternoon in the Druze villages of Abu Sinan and Hurfaysh. The participants supported the decision of Druze leaders to delay acting until the return of the delegation of Druze notables that left today for Lebanon.

IDF To Remain Several Days

TA181015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] A Lebanese Army commando unit this morning entered the Druze villages in the mountain area. Our correspondent in Beirut, Arye Gus, reports that the unit, with eight vehicles, entered the village of Kfar Matta this morning and is supposed to maintain peace between the Christians and the Druze. The IDF has not left the area even though the Lebanese soldiers demanded that it withdraw from the village. Our correspondent has learned that the IDF will remain there a few more days.

Druze inhabitants have told our correspondent that they are satisfied with the fact that the Lebanese Army entered, hoping that it will succeed in preventing a resumption of hostilities.

Our correspondent adds that the Lebanese soldiers were extremely tense and behaved very nervously. Except for a brief verbal exchange with the IDF soldiers there, they had no contact. Our correspondent notes that the Phalangists' roadblocks in the village have remained in place.

Lebanese Army Leaves Ash-Shuf

TA181721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] The Lebanese Army has left the Druze villages in the Ash-Shuf Mountains, although it was to have deployed in the area today according to an agreement with the IDF. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that three Lebanese Army vehicles this morning toured the Druze villages, but left them shortly afterwards, leaving only a lookout behind.

At first, Lebanese Army commanders said that they were still not ready, but later they claimed that they would not enter the area as long as the IDF is there. Our correspondent says that it has been agreed with Lebanese Army officers that the IDF will remain in the villages until the Lebanese Army completes its deployment. The IDF will not leave until the Lebanese Army enters, for fear that the fighting between the Druze and the Christians will resume.

Israeli Druze Delegation Returns

TA190725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The Druze delegation returned to Israel last night from Lebanon. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar says that its members have already reported to Shaykh Amin Tarif that quiet prevails now in the Druze villages, but that there is still great tension. The Druze representatives in Lebanon have asked Shaykh Tarif to ask the Israeli Government to take action to remove the roadblocks and the positions set up by the Phalangists at the entrance to the villages.

Hundreds of Israeli Druze Protest

TA190913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] A few hundred Galilee Druze are currently demonstrating opposite the prime minister's office in Jerusalem. The demonstrators' spokesman, Zaydan 'Atshah, explained to our correspondent Shlomo Raz that they are protesting the roadblocks erected by the Phalangists in the Druze villages in Lebanon and the humiliation they put the Druze through. He said there is not a grain of truth to the defense minister's statements at the Cabinet session that the Lebanese Druze had initiated most of the incidents. It was suggested to the demonstrators that they meet with the director general of the prime minister's office, but they refused because they believe nothing will come out of such a meeting.

IDF SAYS SYRIAN SNIPERS VIOLATE CEASE-FIRE

TA162109 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2055 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 16 Oct (ITIM) -- On Saturday, for the fourth day running, the Syrians violated the cease-fire, and an IDF soldier at a post near the village of Kuk was slightly wounded this afternoon by sniper fire. The post returned fire toward the source of the shooting.

According to IDF officers in the eastern sector, the Syrians have lately utilized sniper fire -- a very dangerous thing since IDF soldiers can be surprised any minute by a lone bullet directed toward their post. It seems the Syrians have decided to use this method to cause maximum casualties to our forces, without overheating the sector by heavy artillery fire.

IDF elements warned that sniper fire is considered a cease-fire violation just as severe as artillery fire, and the Syrians had better understand this before it is too late.

SHARON TOURS EASTERN SECTOR OF LEBANON 18 OCT

TA181833 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon today toured the eastern sector of Lebanon. He visited the town of Dayr al-Qamar, where he was received by Major George Dib, members of the town council and notables, including a former minister of the Sarkis government. They told him that Israel and Lebanon must have a peace agreement and safe borders, and that these things are attainable. Sharon answered that indeed these are Israel's aims -- involving security arrangements, direct contacts between the governments and cultivating normalization.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal notes that this is Sharon's second visit to Dayr al-Qamar, which is considered Lebanon's traditional capital and center of power and influence, whose positions President al-Jumayyil will have to take into account.

IDF, UNIFIL REPORTEDLY CLASH; IDF DENIES

TA162059 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2045 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Southern Lebanon, 16 Oct (ITIM) -- UNIFIL spokesmen claim that fire was exchanged between IDF and UNIFIL soldiers last week, mainly in the area of the villages of Yatar and Jabal Basil, and light arms fire was even directed at the UNIFIL headquarters in An-Naqurah.

The spokesmen noted that the exchange took place mainly because of the UN soldiers' insistence on dealing with everything to do with the carrying of arms by local residents.

According to them, the IDF soldiers were called in many times to separate the sides in the clashes between UNIFIL soldiers and local residents, and sometimes they used arms, but no one was hurt.

IDF figures denied these reports, noting that the IDF does not use arms in anything regarding UNIFIL, and it might be that this involves local militias.

UN AMBASSADOR WELCOMES AL-JUMAYYIL REMARKS

TA182035 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Yehuda Blum, has expressed satisfaction at Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's call at the UN General Assembly for the evacuation of all foreign forces from Lebanon. This is the goal Israel has strived to achieve for many years, Ambassador Blum said, and added that there is no doubt that Al-Jumayyil had the Syrians and the terrorists in mind when he referred in his speech to the destruction of Lebanon by foreign forces.

The Israeli ambassador to the United Nations expressed the hope that Al-Jumayyil's government would follow in Egypt's footsteps and sign a peace treaty with Israel.

UNIFIL ORGANIZES TO FULFILL MANDATE EXTENSION

TA190017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] UNIFIL began organizing this morning after the UN Security Council extended its mandate by another 3 months last night. The UNIFIL spokesman told our correspondent Gabi Zohar that the UN soldiers will continue to carry out their jobs as they did before, but will be prepared to be incorporated in the agreement for the pullout of foreign forces from Lebanon if entrusted with a mission. The Nepalese contingent's 450 troops will return to their country today.

KNESSET COMMITTEE BRIEFED ON REFUGEE HOUSING

TA182034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee was briefed today by IDF officers handling affairs in Judaea and Samaria, and in Lebanon. Maj Gen David Maimon, the commander of the aid unit in south Lebanon, said there are no people without a roof in the area, since part of the Palestinian population is living in public buildings. According to him, the Palestinians in south Lebanon are astonished by the scope of Israeli aid, and rely very much on it.

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee was also informed that funds from the outside are not currently arriving in the territories. The coordinator of activities in the territories, Rehavya Vardi, said that in the wake of the war in Lebanon, the PLO presence in the territories had decreased, but upon publication of the Reagan plan the PLO had again raised its head, and this had an adverse effect on the situation.

Col Yig'al Karmon, the head of the civilian administration, said that the extremists in the territories are currently silent and have not mentioned recently the PLO as their sole representative. According to him, this is one of the results of the war in Lebanon.

The governor of Gaza, Yosef Lunz, said that the replacement of mayors in the Gaza Strip had proceeded without any trouble.

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TOURS BEIRUT, SUBURBS

TA181725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] The state commission of inquiry toured Beirut and its suburbs today, and was given explanations by the assistant chief of staff and the commander of the Northern Command. Previously, our correspondent reported that the Defense Ministry and the IDF made all the arrangements to enable the members of the commission to inspect the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps.

Begins Questioning

TA200632 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] In Jerusalem the commission of inquiry into the massacre in the Beirut refugee camps begins questioning witnesses today. The first three will be two army officers and Maj Gen Yitzhaq Hofi, who was the commander of the Mossad intelligence service until shortly before the massacre.

Also today, the commission is to decide whether some of the future sessions will be open to the public. Defense Minister Sharon and Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Eytan are to testify next week. The three-man commission is made up of Supreme Court Chief Justice Yitzhaq Kahan, Justice Aharon Barak and reserves Major General Yona Efrat.

MORE LECTURERS LEAVE W. BANK UNIVERSITIES

TA200631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign lecturers in universities in Judaea and Samaria have decided not to sign the amended version of the pledge the civilian administration compels them to undertake as a condition for receiving permits to reside in the territories. The amended pledge describes the PLO not as a terrorist, but rather as a hostile organization. Our correspondent reports that as a result of their decision, another lecturer has been forced to leave Judaea and Samaria, bringing the total of departing lecturers to 16. An-Najah University Dean Dr Munzir Salah will be forced to leave Nabulus this week.

SUDANNUMAYRI DISCUSSES ARAB UNITY, SUPPORT FOR IRAQ

NC182325 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 18 Oct (MENA) -- Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has affirmed that the recent Fes summit concluded that there is a need for Egypt to return to the Arab fold. However, the conference did not adopt a unanimous resolution; it felt it to each state to act with its own method.

In an interview with Arab [Egyptian] television's "Face the Press" program tonight, President Numayri explained that when he submitted the subject of Egypt's return at the recent Fes summit, he found readiness to discuss it. The leaders tackled this subject from scientific and solidarity premises. He indicated that during the dialogue on this subject at the conference, he found out that some states indeed had acted and had held contacts with Egypt and had taken steps far more reaching than any collective decision.

President Numayri attributed the nonadoption by the Fes summit conference of clear resolutions regarding Egypt's return to "inherited Arab qualities" that prevent the Arabs from saying publicly what they want. He also attributed it to self-pride and shyness.

President Numayri said "Arab solidarity" are "nice words" that every leader at the Fes summit had uttered and wished would materialize immediately. However, he noted that the obstacles in the area do not permit immediate activity to achieve this solidarity at present.

Answering a question on Sudan's recent decision to prepare Sudanese forces to support Iraq, President Numayri attributed this decision to the Arab states' agreement at the Fes summit to support Iraq in the event it is attacked by Iran. He also attributed it to his disapproval of what is taking place in Iran in the name of the Islamic revolution.

Answering another question, President Numayri affirmed that Sudanese-Ethiopian relations are advanced and cordial and that the two countries want this.

The Sudanese president declared his disapproval of Soviet policy in the area, especially in the Horn of Africa. He also attacked the Soviet Union's intervention in the affairs of some African countries, saying this intervention means hegemony, no matter how others may justify it.

Concerning the Arab plan approved by the Fes summit, President Numayri explained that any other peace plans can be measured vis-a-vis this plan. He said that, within this framework, we should not neglect President Reagan's initiative.

President Numayri said President Reagan's Middle East initiative has both positive and negative aspects. He asked: Why shouldn't we develop the negative aspects into positive ones, and why shouldn't we win over the United States?

President Numayri said the important things are not the various peace initiatives but the methods making Israel agree to talk about peace. He expressed confidence that the best way to deal with the problem is to unify all efforts toward one objective.

President Numayri said it is unlikely that the Arab pressure on the great powers or other states will succeed as long as there is no solidarity among the Arab states themselves.

President Numayri expressed the belief that the United States has twice adopted honorable stands to resolve the issue: first, at Camp David, which has great chances for establishing peace; and secondly, with President Reagan's initiative.

In answering a question on the OAU crisis and its relation to inter-Arab disputes, President Numayri expressed his belief that the Arab world has caused this crisis -- regrettably -- directly and indirectly. The Sudanese president explained that the Arabs have caused the OAU crisis by transferring the Saharan issue to the OAU, instead of tackling it within the Arab League.

He noted that the Saharan issue was dealt with in a "dramatic" way and was not handled through the correct political or diplomatic manner. The Sudanese president expressed his hope that the OAU would revert to its former cohesiveness.

President Numayri analyzed the integration between Egypt and Sudan and its effect on the two countries' economies. In this respect, he affirmed that integration is the solution for removing financial obstacles and impediments to liquidity.

President Numayri noted that the private sector in the two countries cannot meet all investment requirements, pointing out the importance of the role of the public sector and the government in this respect.

Answering a question about Arab investments in Sudan, President Numayri pointed out that it will be a long time before one can say these investments have attained a satisfactory level.

Replying to another question, President Numayri analyzed the two experiments of regional government and autonomous government in Sudan. He explained that the basic objective of these experiments stems from the premise of passing authority to the masses, decentralizing the government and bringing the civil war in the south to an end.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH MEXICO

EA191542 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Summary] Sudan and Mexico have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level with effect from 19 October. Sudan's ambassador will be Umar Salah 'Isa.

TUNISIA

FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH IRAQ

JN171208 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] Rabat, 17 Oct (INA) -- Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi has reiterated Tunisia's complete solidarity with Iraq in confronting the Iranian aggression.

In an interview with the INA correspondent in Rabat outside the seven-member Arab ministerial committee meetings, the Tunisian foreign minister said Tunisia's stand on the Iraq-Iran dispute has been and continues to be clear, particularly after Iraq had welcomed, and expressed its readiness to cooperate with, all the good efforts exerted by the Islamic Conference Organization, the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations and all other international organizations. He added that Tunisia is satisfied with Iraq's stand on the importance of settling the dispute with Iran by peaceful means.

The Tunisian foreign minister said his country supports the Algerian mediation or any other offer toward ending the Iraq-Iran dispute.

On the results of the seven-member committee in which he participated, Es-Sebsi declined to confirm or deny the PLO's participation in the committee's visit to the United States. He simply said: We will do our best to have the PLO represented in the committee. He added: What is important is a unified Arab stand and a unified Arab plan for the success of which we will work. Those who participate in the committee will carry out their duty.

The Tunisian foreign minister said: One must not create new difficulties for the committee. However, we consider the presence of the PLO in the seven-member Arab ministerial committee essential, because it will give the committee legitimacy and credibility. He added that the committee will hold other preparatory meetings in the future to define its plan of action in the countries that are permanent members in the UN Security Council. However, he did not set a date for these meetings.

On the current Palestinian presence in Tunisia, Es-Sebsi said Tunisia proceeds from a basic principle of not interfering in the PLO's domestic affairs, because the PLO has the final say on all issues connected to the Palestinian cause. Any stand contrary to this is erroneous. He stressed that the Palestinian leaders are satisfied with this Tunisian stand.

Es-Sebsi said that, after leaving Beirut, the PLO had decided to come to Tunisia, and we welcomed it. We have no intention of either forcing it to stay or to leave because this is a decision it alone must make.

On Tunisia-Algerian relations, Es-Sebsi said they are proceeding on a normal course and expressed the hope that they will develop more quickly. He said President Habib Bourguiba has extended an invitation to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to visit Tunisia. The invitation has been accepted and a date for the visit will be set at the appropriate time.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO CONGRESS ISSUES POLITICAL STATEMENT

LD190318 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] The fifth Polisario congress, held from 12 to 16 October, has issued a political statement. It begins by explaining that this congress was held during a period characterized by a broad imperialist onslaught which seeks to destroy the national liberation movements and to subjugate the world's patriotic and progressive regimes by suppressing the spirit of resistance of nations and their desire to achieve their legitimate aspirations to freedom and independence.

The statement adds: It is, therefore, not strange that the Saharan people and their struggle, and through them all northwest Africa, are exposed to this ferocious onslaught, which is manifested by the direct military intervention of the United States alongside the Moroccan regime in its expansionist war against our people.

The period in which the congress was held also is characterized by extremely important gains and victories by our people in their hard and bitter march to enforce their national sovereignty over the entire SDAR.

While the Saharan people impose themselves as a military and political force that must inevitably be recognized and cooperated with to put an end to the war and find a peaceful, just and final solution on the basis of respect for the unchanging right of our people to independence and national sovereignty, by means of negotiations -- which are the best way to reach this objective -- Morocco stubbornly has shut the door against a peaceful solution proposed by the Polisario and the SDAR Government (?and) international organizations.

Moroccan stubbornness and preference for the war option [words indistinct] in all the deteriorating conditions that the Moroccan regime had experienced despite the aid and military reinforcements provided by the French Government (?when the regime) cried for the help of an imperialist power to (?provide it with the means of waging) war against our people.

This is what developments revealed after the failure of the French-Moroccan plot [words indistinct] as a first stage the plan of entrenchment to encircle a limited area of our soil (?under U.S. supervision) was effected. This was accompanied by assistance, aid and investment to (?prop up) the collapsing Moroccan economy. The United States began to send weapons and planes to Morocco.

(?At that time) in particular, the Moroccan king pretended to agree to a peaceful settlement and bragged about holding a referendum (?at the OAU conference). There is no doubt that the referendum cannot take place except after the withdrawal of the occupation forces and through negotiations between the two sides: Morocco and the Polisario. However, the king's rejection of this principle stopped progress in the search for a peaceful solution on this basis. All he wants is to give an aspect of legality to his (?occupation), expansion and maneuvering in order to gain time and create the conditions for direct U.S. military intervention, which (?started) with a Moroccan-U.S. strategic agreement and the establishment of a joint general staff to command the aggressive war against our people. [Words indistinct] the Moroccan regime (?granted) military bases to the United States [words indistinct].

The statement continues: (?This is) clear (?most strikingly) in the conspiratorial alliance between the expansionist Moroccan regime and the ugly racist regime in South Africa, which is a spearhead for implementing the plot that seeks violent confrontation against the aspirations of the Namibian and South African peoples and follows a policy of (?hostility) toward the frontline states in order to bring them to heel. It is clear from this that this onslaught is all-embracing and complete. It is hostile and (?ferocious) and relies on fanning the cold war. It seeks (?in some respect) to restore or compensate for the strategic positions lost previously in Iran, Nicaragua, Angola and other places and to oppose the aspirations of the Third World for the creation of an international system based on justice and cooperation.

Within the framework of this imperialist onslaught, the U.S. military intervention against our people in particular and the area as a whole seeks:

1. To weaken the struggle of our people by checking and undermining our gains at international organizations, particularly at the African level, to create conditions in advance before implementing the extermination plot against our people.
2. To apply constant pressure on the states that support the legitimate right of our people to existence and complete independence.
3. To try to prevent the SDAR from playing its full role in the OAU and from occupying its place in the organization in accordance with the OAU Charter and the will of the nations of the continent.
4. To paralyze the effectiveness of the organization and divert it from its goal of completing the liberation of the entire continent, that is, if the Rabat regime and the U.S. Administration do not destroy it through their active subversion and the use of pressure on some African states to prevent them from attending the African summit conference.

In the face of this situation, the fifth general congress affirms that the battle of our people against Moroccan expansion, supported by the United States, is a fateful battle for survival and recovery of their full national rights which are recognized internationally. Therefore, the congress condemns and strongly denounces U.S. intervention against our people, Moroccan expansion, the Moroccan refusal to (?reach) a final negotiated solution and Moroccan persistence in stepping up the war, broadening its scope and changing its character by introducing into it means [words indistinct] destruction and extermination against a small and defenseless nation. The Saharan people will not submit to any force, whatever its size or (?power), which tries to undermine its will to achieve its sacred aims, regardless of the cost and sacrifices. They are resolved to use all their energies and means to ensure the achievement of this noble aim.

In conclusion, the congress statement says the fifth Polisario congress salutes the fraternal historic stand of [word indistinct] the Algerian and Libyan revolutions toward our people in their just struggle. It also salutes all the nations, states and organizations that support them in their historic movement. It (?appeals) to all world nations to stand alongside this nation until it recovers its full rights to national sovereignty and complete independence and to intervene to stop the hands of expansion and [word indistinct].

The fifth Polisario congress also addressed an open letter to the Moroccan people, in which it denounces the active and direct U.S. intervention in the Arab Maghreb by turning Morocco into a hostile U.S. military base and reviving the era of colonialism and protection. The letter also denounces the extremely serious effect of this on the freedom and independence of the Moroccan people.

The letter particularly notes that the expansionist war being waged against the Saharan people for the past 7 years at the instigation of U.S. imperialism, the high price of which is being paid by the sons of the Moroccan people, is no more than an attempt to distract the Moroccan people and divert them from their real battle for sovereignty and against poverty, oppression, persecution, underdevelopment and ugly exploitation.

The letter adds that the human and economic potentials that should have been employed for developing and improving Morocco have been diverted to the war effort to serve the whims of the tyrant regime that brought the Moroccan people to their knees, destroyed their sovereignty and made them experience the worst economic and social crisis for the sake of its own survival.

ETHIOPIACOMPENSATION AGREEMENT WITH ITALY SIGNED

AU190916 Rome ANSA in English 0835 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] (ANSA) -- Addis Ababa, October 19 -- Italy and Ethiopia have signed an agreement on compensation for nationalization of Italian firms and restoring freedom of movement to Italian citizens in this North African country.

The agreement was signed here by Italian Foreign Undersecretary Roberto Palleschi and Ethiopian Government representative Taye (Guillat).

Last Saturday at a meeting of the Italian community here, Palleschi described the agreement thusly:

- 1) The Ethiopian Government will pay about three million dollars to the Italian Government which will use the sum in Italo-Ethiopian economic compensation projects;
- 2) There will be no more obstacles to Italians residing in Ethiopia to obtain exit visas;
- 3) Tax debts or debts of another nature of Italians whose firms have been nationalized have been cancelled;
- 4) Tax debts of other Italian citizens will also be cancelled;
- 5) Guarantees undersigned by Italian citizens for others who had to leave Ethiopia will be cancelled.

TIGRE FRONT REPORTS RECENT BATTLE SUCCESS

EA171532 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Tigrina to Ethiopia 1345 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] On (?15) October 1982, the heroic guerrilla fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front attacked an enemy force that was moving to the environs of Akesum to harass and rob people. Six fascist Dergue soldiers were killed and another six wounded; the rest of the enemy force fled in disarray. One of those killed was a battalion commander.

Meanwhile, continuing its barbaric air raids on civilian targets, the fascist Dergue on 12 October 1982, bombed (Edaga Hibret) in (Asgede) District, western Tigre, for half an hour. In this fascist attack by four aircraft, a meeting hall and a peasant's house were destroyed, while six camels were wounded, and 13 quintals of grain, being carried by donkeys, were destroyed.

KENYA23 AIR FORCE MEN RECEIVE JAIL SENTENCES

EA191156 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Another 23 rebels of the disbanded Kenya Air Force have been jailed for periods ranging from 18 months to 17 years for participating in 1 August disturbances.

Two of the rebels -- Sgt Jerim Oluoch and Pvt Paul Ocheing Waudi -- were dismissed from the armed forces. The three courts martial were presided over by Colonel Kibwana, Brig General arap Cheruiyot, Colonel Thirimu, assisted by Judge Advocate (Mutito) Karagon and (Kwera) and other senior military officers.

SOMALIATWO SOMALI OPPOSITION FRONTS REPORT AGREEMENT

EA102028 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 9 Oct 82

[Text] In our special Radio Kulmis program tonight we first bring you the agreement reached by the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] and the Somali National Movement [SNM]. The agreement is read by Mahdi Ahmad Warsame:

Dear listeners: The agreement reached by the SNM and the DFSS is as follows:

On 7 October 1982 the DFSS and the SNM held a meeting on cooperation between the two fronts to prepare the ground for tangible and lasting unification. During their long struggles, the two opposition fronts have formed broad bases of support among the general public of Somalia. At the same time, the two movements have gained recognition and received full assistance from the progressive and democratic peoples of the world. While the two movements are pursuing their own political programs, they have at the same time now agreed to cooperate in leading the struggle of the general public of Somalia, who are opposed to the dictatorial regime of Muhammad Siad Barre.

The SNM and the DFSS have been forced -- not by choice -- to undertake the following:

1. To launch armed struggle against the obstinate and dictatorial regime of Muhammad Siad Barre as of today;
2. To resist without mercy the attempt to obliterate the liberation movements and to fight the terrorism unleashed on Somali nationalists;
3. To oppose the false title of statesman for the dictator, and the creation of tribal rule based on tribal inheritance;
4. To fight the continuing attempt to crush the freedom and democratic principles of the Somali masses;
5. To fight the abuse of Islamic principles and Islamic ways of life of the Somali people;
6. To oppose the crippling of the economy of the country and [work] for productivity and simple investment in livestock and agricultural fields; to control the rampant inflation in the country; to check labor exploitation and embezzlement of public property;
7. To fight the destruction of the morals of the general public and the denial to the Somali public of their essential means of livelihood;
8. To oppose the suicidal foreign policy that has brought great dangers, risks and disasters.

While observing and taking into consideration the points mentioned above and translating the needs of the Somali masses clearly represented by the Somali SNM and DFSS opposition fronts into action, they jointly pronounce:

1. After the overthrow of Siad Barre, we will fulfill the needs of the Somali people and will form and create a government of the general masses, based on the principles of democracy and equality. The government will be one in which the general public of Somalia will directly and democratically participate.

2. We will defend the unity of the SDR and strengthen its freedom and independence while at the same time rebuilding the destroyed national organs. This will enable us to restore the economy with the aim of raising the standard of living of the general public, removing injustice and reviving the traditions, culture and the Islamic principles of Somalia.
3. We will strive to create a mixed economy in which the state agencies and the private sector jointly cooperate.
4. We will observe strictly the tangible principles of nonalignment. We will respect and protect the friendship of all nations. We will support international cooperation and an end to apartheid and colonialism.
5. We strongly and fearlessly oppose the establishing of foreign bases in Somalia. We will work for the removal of all U.S. bases in our country.
6. We strongly support the peace and stability of the world at large and will struggle for the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea to become zones of peace, in which foreign bases and the use of nuclear weapons are prohibited.
7. We will do our utmost to make the Horn of Africa a region of lasting peace -- based on economic cooperation between the countries of the region, and in particular between Somalia and Ethiopia -- which is now completely severed, but which can be restored and promoted.
8. We will strive to unite the peoples of the Arab world, and we will strongly participate in the just struggle to oppose Zionism, imperialism and neocolonialism.
9. We support the just struggle of the Palestine Revolution. We will recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, as the sole, legitimate and just representative of the Palestinian people.
10. We fully recognize the just right of the people of Palestine to legitimate self-determination, and to form an independent Palestinian government in their country.
11. We are disheartened by and vehemently condemn the massacre of the people of Palestine and Lebanon by the Zionists.
12. We are strongly opposed to the Israeli occupation of Arab land, such as Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.
13. We will give moral and material support to the legitimate struggle of the people of Namibia and South Africa who are fighting against the apartheid and colonialist policies of a few whites in South Africa.

The SNM and DFSS have agreed to establish full and concrete cooperation as the basis of full and lasting unification.

In order to implement these points, the DFSS and the SNM have agreed:

- A. To form a joint committee composed of the SNM and the DFSS to agree on a joint political program, supervise its implementation and guarantee the continued unification process;
- B. To form a united committee of the DFSS and the SNM to run the programs and news of Radio Halkan on the basis of united political policies, equal sharing of air time, and guaranteeing the implementation of all the procedures laid down for the broadcasts;

The two organizations agreed to change the name of Radio Kulmis to Radio Halkan, the latter to be announced as follows -- Halkani Wa Radio Halkan -- The United Voices of the Somali Opposition Forces.

C. To establish a united committee of the SNM and the DFSS which will unite the work of all the forces of the two opposition fronts, in particular in the fields of supplies, reconnaissance, and action;

D. To form a joint committee of the DFSS and the SNM which will work to harmonize the social and other differences that may arise between the two organizations.

The members of the joint committees of the DFSS and the SNM will be named when this joint agreement is signed.

The delegations of the two movements who reached this agreement are as follows:

The Somali National Movement:

Yusuf Ali Shaykh (Madar) -- chairman;

Ahmad Abdi Ismail (Digsii) -- general commander;

Hasan Isa Jama -- secretary of political affairs;

Col Abd al-Qadir Kosar Abdi -- commander of the SNM forces;

The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia:

Col Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmad -- chairman;

Siad Jama Husayn -- deputy chairman;

Abd ar-Rahman Aydeed Ahmad -- secretary of information;

Gen Mahmud Muse Hirsi -- gen commander of the DFSS forces;

Ahmad Dahir Hasan -- member.

ITALIAN DEFENSE MINISTER, DELEGATION WELCOMED

AU191018 Rome ANSA in English 0845 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] (ANSA) -- Mogadishu, October 19 -- Italian Defense Minister Lello Lagorio will have talks here today with Somali Vice President and Defense Minister Mohamed Ali Samantar on the prospects of increasing cooperation between the two nations.

On his arrival here Monday, Lagorio said "Italian opinion is interested in improving cooperation between Italy and Somalia in all fields".

The Italian Minister will also meet tomorrow with Somali President General Siad Barre.

Lagorio said he was particularly glad to be able to attend celebrations for the thirteenth anniversary of the Somali revolution on October 21.

The Italian delegation's presence at the national festivities "underscores the intensity of Italian interest in Somalia's problems and the friendship of the Italian people for the Somali people", Lagorio added.

Before arriving in Mogadishu, Lagorio stopped in Jidda in Saudi Arabia where he met with Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Prince Sultan 'Abd al-'Aziz for talks on issues of common interest.

Lagorio extended an invitation to Prince Sultan to visit Italy. The date will be set through diplomatic channels.

At a dinner offered Monday evening by General Samantar, the host said that the Italian delegation's visit at this time "of particular difficulty for Somalis" is an "act of solidarity and further proof of the nearly century-old relations between the two countries, strengthened recently by Italy's support of the just Somali cause".

Samantar concluded saying that, "One recognizes a true friend in difficult times and our people are grateful for what Italy has done and is doing in this difficult moment for Somalia".

CHADCDR SAYS AMERICAN AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN 13 OCT

AB191038 Paris AFP in English 1036 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Lagos, Oct. 19 (AFP) -- An "American plane" was shot down six days ago by troops of Chad's Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDR) faction, a communique from the CDR has asserted.

The communique, dated October 17, said the "Transall-type" aircraft was brought down on October 13 in the Guera region, 25 kilometres (15 miles) from the central Chad town of Mongo.

Three American experts and 15 soldiers of Hissein Habre's FAN were on board the plane, the communique said.

The CDR, headed by Asheikh ibn Umar, is fighting against Mr Habre's attempts to spread his control throughout Chad. Its communique said that the downing of the aircraft followed "warnings" to "organisations, international bodies and third countries, which under the guise of humanitarian activities, give logistic support to the FAN."

Several United Nations bodies, such as the U.N. Development Programme, use American Hercules C-130 transports, similar to the Franco-German Transall, for distributing relief food supplies to Chad.

The U.S. Embassy in Lagos said it had no knowledge of the reported incident.

The CDR communique repeated its warning that "the countries and bodies concerned immediately halt their activities, in order to avoid more painful consequences."

FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT EXPECTED 'SOON'

AB190953 Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 19 Oct 82

[By Aldom Tito]

[Text] Ndjamen, Oct 19 (AFP) -- A new government to reflect Chadian national unity is expected here shortly. The mood of expectation follows the ninth Franco-African summit in Kinshasa where Hissein Habre, whose FAN faction captured Ndjamen last June, was welcomed as "president of Chad" by host President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire. Since then the official radio has been broadcasting regularly this section of President Mobutu's speech.

The anxiety of Chadians to see the Council of State set up by Mr Habre replaced by a more permanent government reflects a desire to return to normal life after years of civil war.

Ordinary people apparently chosen at random on the street last Sunday and interviewed live by Chad radio called for a government whose members were "really responsible, whatever their political leanings."

On setting up the Council of State last July, Mr Habre himself said that it would eventually give way to a government "technically responsible and politically representative." At this most recent press conference Mr Habre said a new government would be formed "very soon." Well-informed sources say that a major political event will take place this week, which could be the naming of a new administration of some other ruling body. There has been no official confirmation but the Chadian news agency ATP, controlled by the authorities, said last Saturday that "the time is near." The agency added, "The closest secrecy is surrounding the discussions and the people of Ndjamen, who like to play guessing games at times like this, are expecting to be surprised." ATP added that the shape of the future government was "almost known." It would be "a judicious mixture of technocrats and politicians," the agency said, and all political "feelings" would be represented. Every day new names are rumored as future ministers, but many appear to be wishful thinking by those who spread them around. The press is unanimous: The new government "must avoid falling into previous errors where the concern was to satisfy regional or factional claims to the detriment of efficiency."

GAMBIAPRESIDENT JAWARA PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO MEXICO

For Mexico City NOTIMEX reportage on President Dawda Kairaba Jawara's official visit to Mexico from 15 to 16 October, including his meeting with Mexico's President-Elect Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado and a news conference, see the Mexico section of the 19 October Latin America DAILY REPORT.

GHANAAGREEMENT SIGNED WITH U.S. OIL EXPLORATION FIRM

AB191435 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Ghana today signed an agreement with an oil exploration firm, Geophysical Services Incorporated [GSI] of the United States, to conduct a 6-month offshore [word indistinct] survey. The survey, estimated at \$7.2 million, will cover a distance of 7,300 km. It is aimed at providing relevant data to serve as a base for negotiations and the granting of concessions for oil prospection in Ghana.

The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] secretary for fuel and power, Mr Appiah Korang, signed for Ghana, while Mr Harry Brown, manager of GSI, signed for the company. Under the terms of the agreement, provision is made to attach Ghanaian engineers to the company to enable them to acquire relevant experience on the job.

Before signing the agreement Mr Appiah Korang reminded the company of the utmost urgency required in the completion of the assignment to enable oil companies which have shown interest in oil exploration in the country to have access to accurate data. The secretary hoped the agreement would mark the beginning of cooperation between Ghana and the company in an attempt to find more oil in the country.

Replying, Mr Brown agreed with the PNDC secretary on the required urgency to prepare accurate data for an offshore oil exploration. He hoped whatever data to be compiled would be put to good use.

LIBERIAPRC SPEAKER WARNS STUDENTS ON CONFRONTATION

AB152052 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] People's Redemption Council [PRC] Speaker Brig Gen Jeffrey Gbatu has warned the students in the country to desist from acts that will create confrontation between them and higher authority. The speaker of the PRC said, as future leaders of Liberia, students should not forget that whatever problems they create today, would not contribute positively to the new society which all patriotic Liberians now envision.

Speaking to newsmen on Thursday, Speaker Gbatu made particular mention of the recent conflict between certain students of the [name indistinct] junior high school and the authorities in which the students reportedly destroyed some school properties, including window glasses and blackboards. He expressed dismay that the students of [name indistinct] school should resort to what he called vandalism, especially when the head of state had recently made \$50,000 available to improve conditions at that school. The PRC speaker said the students who were interested to learn should do so and avoid pushing authorities into confrontation that is not of benefit to the future of Liberia.

MALITRAORE COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH MITTERRAND

AB200615 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] President Moussa Traore and his delegation took leave of their French hosts today. The Malian delegation will leave Paris tomorrow for Praia, Cape Verde, where it will make another official visit.

On the head of state's visit to Paris, it was learned that Gen Moussa Traore met with the French ministers of cooperation and development, external relations and economy and finance. He held private talks today with President Francois Mitterrand. The meeting was followed by a luncheon hosted by the French president. After the luncheon, Gen Moussa Traore answered questions from French newsmen that touched on the Namibian independence issue, the recent Kinshasa summit and South-South cooperation. He earlier discussed the OAU crisis, about which he expressed optimism.

[Begin recording] [Moussa Traore] You are aware of my optimistic statement on the settlement of the OAU crisis after my meeting with a number of heads of state. I cannot, however, elaborate on the issue. Perhaps, we will do so when the six-country group meets in Addis Ababa to report on the outcome of its mission.

[Question] Mr President, there is currently a dispute between your country and a brotherly country, Upper Volta. What exactly has been done about it?

[Answer] Mali and Upper Volta have for 6 years disagreed on a border issue. At present we are seeking ways to overcome the crisis. However, the importance of the issue must not be exaggerated.

[Question] Mr President, what other African problems did you discuss with President Mitterrand?

[Answer] We discussed the OAU crisis, which is of great concern to African countries. This problem has already been brought up on several occasions in various places and we discussed ways of overcoming the crisis.

[Question] Mr President, you attended the meeting of heads of state of Africa and France. What was your opinion on it and what lessons could be learned from the summit?

[Answer] I have already expressed my views. You know, the success of a summit is measured not only by what is said or what can be observed; bilateral talks are also important. The Kinshasa summit afforded several heads of state the opportunity to examine this problem and ways to overcome it. Also we examined the issue of the world crisis as well as the need for South-South cooperation, that is, cooperation among the developing nations.

[Question] Mr President, a last question: Did you examine the Namibian independence issue with President Mitterrand?

[Answer] Unfortunately, we did not have enough time to discuss the issue in particular. But at the Kinshasa meeting we examined the issue and we believe Namibia will be independent in 1983. [end recording]

AFP Reportage

For an AFP report on President Moussa Traore's arrival on an official visit to France on 16 October and a listing of French ministers with whom he was to meet, see the France section of the 18 October West Europe DAILY REPORT.

NIGERIACOOPERATION TALKS WITH NIGER BEGIN IN LAGOS

AB191627 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Talks began today in Lagos between Nigeria and the Republic of Niger on cooperation in the areas of mines and power. The minister of mines and power, Alhaji Ibrahim Hassan, led the Nigerian delegation to the talks while the Niger counterpart, Mr Oumarou Diallo, led officials of his country. Their deliberations will center on five main issues. They are: electricity supplied by Nigeria to Niger, the uranium joint commission, phosphates, the processing of tin from Niger in Nigeria and the proposal by Niger to construct a dam at her own end of the River Niger.

Alhaji Ibrahim Hassan said that consideration was already being given to the request by Niger for an increase in the 30 megawatts electricity being supplied her by Nigeria. He stated that the federal government was particularly interested in the phosphate venture because of the green revolution program and would be prepared to have shareholders in the venture. The minister explained that all the fertilizer factories in the country were at the moment importing phosphates, adding that if such a product could be found in a nearby African country, the federal government would be obliged to exploit it for the benefit of both countries.

On Niger's request to have her tin processed by the Mercury Smelting Company, Jos, the minister disclosed that it had been communicated to the organization which was ready to enter into agreement with the officials of that country.

Alhaji Ibrahim urged the Niger delegation to provide full details of the proposed dam project at their own end of the River Niger to enable Nigeria to know how it would affect the Kainji dam.

The Niger minister of mines, Mr Oumarou Diallo, had earlier spoken on Nigeria's position in the continent and asked her not to relent in her efforts in assisting sister nations. He remarked that a nation's greatness lay in her capability to be self-sufficient in food production and that the exploitation of the phosphate deposits in his country under a joint venture would help both countries in food production. The two delegations will leave Lagos today for Kainji and the Mercury Smelting Company, Jos. They are expected back on Saturday when a communique on their discussions will also be issued.

MUSLIM STUDENTS URGE EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN

AB160828 Lagos NAN in English 0747 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] Ilorin, 15 Oct. (NAN) -- The Muslim Students Society of Nigeria has called for the immediate expulsion of Israel from the United Nations.

A statement jointly signed by the national vice president and secretary of the society in Ilorin described the recent massacre of Palestinian refugees as brutal, inhuman and sacrilegious. The society appealed to all citizens of the world who have respect for human dignity to support the PLO in its struggle for freedom.

It also described the use of arms for destruction of lives and properties as senseless and wicked. The society urged the United States and the Soviet Union to halt the arms race in the interest of world peace.

ANCOLAMPLA-LABOR PARTY DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR CUBA

EA162346 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 16 Oct 82

[Text] A delegation of the MPLA-Labor Party led by the Central Committee secretary for organization, Comrade Lucio Lara, has left for Cuba on an official and friendly visit. The Angolan delegation's visit to Cuba comes within the framework of recent agreements between the Cuban Communist Party and the MPLA-Labor Party.

UNITA REPRESENTATIVE DENIES MASSACRE CHARGES

MB190927 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The Angola UNITA movement says allegations by the Angolan Government that UNITA massacred some 300 villagers at (Chinhana), 150 km from Huambo, are untrue. UNITA's deputy foreign representative told a news conference in London that UNITA would not kill its own supporters, who are taking part in the struggle against the MPLA government.

The representative, Mr (Peter Chigundi), said it was the MPLA which was killing people who are against the presence of Cuban troops in Angola. Last week, the MPLA government accused UNITA of having massacred 150 people, including women and children, in Huila Province of southern Angola.

UNITA STATEMENT REPORTS MPLA-CUBAN ATTACK

MB190932 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] A statement by UNITA in Lisbon said that some 12,000 MPLA troops and 5,000 Cubans were making a three-pronged attack against UNITA forces in the center of the country. It said the attacks had been launched in the Cuando-Cubango and Moxico Provinces with the support of 22 helicopters, 7 Mig-21 fighter-bombers and 27 tanks. Since the 8th of this month, the MPLA and Cuban forces had been using napalm against UNITA regions of southern Angola.

LESOTHOSPOKESMAN DENIES MALAN'S DESTABILIZATION CHARGES

MB170719 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] Spokesman for the Lesotho Government says that [words indistinct] brought against Lesotho, that Lesotho is destabilizing South Africa, are unfortunate.

The spokesman was reacting to South African press reports in which the South African minister of defense, Mr Magnus Malan, is reported to have said that, Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique, Zambia and Lesotho are destabilizing the Republic of South Africa. Mr Malan said the destabilization is being done by these countries through acts of terror and by being used as passages for terrorist organizations. The spokesman said that Mr Malan knows very well that Lesotho only gives political asylum to South African refugees and freedom fighters and does not give them bases for military attacks against South Africa. He added that Lesotho is obligated by humanitarian considerations to give sanctuary for these victims of South Africa's apartheid system who are persecuted [words indistinct] because they want political and economic rights.

The spokesman said that Lesotho has never invited refugees and that if Mr Malan and his colleagues in the South African Government could dismantle apartheid there would be no South African refugees fleeing to Lesotho. The spokesman observed that the whole world is imploring South Africa to allow peaceful change, but the South African Government is compounding the racial problem in the country further with the so-called new constitutional dispensation which excludes the black majority from power sharing. He said even though South Africa accuses Lesotho of interfering in its domestic affairs, Lesotho has a right to speak out against apartheid because it is no longer an internal South African issue, as its consequences reverberate across the whole subregion.

By accusing Lesotho, South Africa is turning us into scapegoats for a dangerous policy. Lesotho shall forever advocate a good neighborliness policy, the dismantling of apartheid would go a long way toward [words indistinct].

Whilst South Africa is accusing Lesotho of providing bases for South African guerrillas, this accusation has never been substantiated, despite Lesotho's repeated challenges for South Africa to point out these bases, the spokesman added. On the other hand, South Africa's connivance with the so-called Lesotho Liberation Army [LLA] which operates from South Africa has been established beyond reasonable doubt and Ntsu Mokhele is himself living in South Africa. Recently, members of this terrorist organization, the LLA, have even killed each other on South African soil. And yet, the South African authorities still have the audacity to blame Lesotho for destabilizing South Africa, the spokesman concluded,

MADAGASCAR

RATSKIRAKA, JAONA CLEARED TO CONTEST ELECTION

AB191315 Paris AFP in English 1158 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Antananarivo, 19 Oct (AFP) -- President Didier Ratsiraka and veteran opposition leader Monja Jaona are the only two candidates cleared by Madagascar's constitutional court to contest the presidential elections next month.

The court rejected three candidates on the grounds that they were not eligible under the 1975 Constitution, as their support did not come from parties within the National Front for the Defense of the Revolution. Those banned were Colonel Brechard Rajaonarison, who staged an abortive coup against President Ratsiraka in 1975, Koto Robert, a former member of the ruling Supreme Revolutionary Council who was expelled from the president's AREMA [Advance-Guard of the Malagasy Revolution] Party, and former Minister Zafy Albert.

Colonel Rajaonarison and Mr Robert were backed by an illegal and dissident offshoot of the VONJY [Movement for National Unity] Party, while Mr Albert, who served in the Ramanantsoa government from 1972 to 1975, was put forward by a "national committee for the defence of human rights and liberties, and decentralization."

The electoral campaign opened officially on Sunday. The elections will be held in two rounds, on November 7 and 15.

Meanwhile the newspaper MADAGASCAR MATIN reported that the human rights organization Amnesty International had turned down an invitation by Mr Jaona to observe the elections. Amnesty said its activities were restricted to the release and defence of the rights of prisoners of conscience.

Mr Jaona also invited the International Human Rights League to observe the elections, but President Ratsiraka indicated in a recent interview that neither organization would be welcome. The president asserted that there would be no electoral fraud and that voting would take place normally.

MAURITIUSFINANCE MINISTER PAUL BERENGER RESIGNS 19 OCT

AB191956 Paris AFP in French 1633 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] Port Louis, 19 Oct (AFP) -- Paul Berenger, 36, finance minister of Mauritius, resigned his post on Tuesday following differences between him and other members of his party within the government. This was learned today from reliable sources in Port Louis.

An advocate of strict financial administration in the affairs of the state, Mr Berenger soon after the June elections caused an austerity budget to be adopted by Parliament even though the leftwing majority won all the seats during the June elections.

The disagreement within the Mauritian Militant Movement [MMM] and the Mauritian Socialist Party [PSM] coalition government on economic issues during the past 2 days led to a prediction of expected legislative elections.

Officially considered the third most important person in the government, Berenger also had been considered its most influential person, both at home and abroad. He had just returned from a long trip that took him to the United States where he negotiated for new financial aid from the IMF and the World Bank.

Questioned by AFP, Berenger stated that he "had no intention of changing his mind." However, members of the MMM have expressed their intention to convince the minister to withdraw his resignation, it was learned in Port Louis.

Berenger's decision is likely to create a serious crisis within the government because he was considered the man with the needed charisma to make the people of Mauritius accept the period of austerity imposed by the IMF, observers note.

JOINT COMMISSIONS WITH ALGERIA, LIBYA FORMED

MB181714 Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 9 Oct 82 p 6

[Excerpt] The government yesterday approved the formation of two joint commissions, one with Algeria, and the other with Libya.

This was announced on television by Paul Berenger, minister of finance, when he discussed the mission he and Planning Minister K. Ruhee recently carried out abroad. Berenger said the joint commission with India [as published] will meet in Mauritius at the beginning of December. The one with Libya will meet at the same time, but in Tripoli. The Mauritian delegation in Tripoli will be personally led by Berenger or Ruhee.

MOZAMBIQUEPOSITION ON RELATIONS WITH EEC CLARIFIED

MB181329 Maputo English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 18 Oct 82

[Text] Mozambique has clarified its position on relations with the European [Economic] Community, the EEC. A Mozambican diplomat said that although Mozambique was virtually certain to take part in next year's negotiations on a new Lome Convention, this did not necessarily mean they were prepared to sign the convention. The Lome Convention associates the EEC with some 60 Third World countries.

The diplomat, quoted in today's Maputo daily NOTICIAS, said changes were needed to take account of new economic realities, adding that he thought some EEC countries were aware of this. The most recent contacts between Mozambique and EEC representative had been positive, he said.

Two weeks ago, ports and surface transport minister, Alcantara Santos, met EEC Development Minister Edgar Pisani in Brussels, and delivered a message from President Samora Machel. This message expressed Mozambique's willingness to take part in negotiations.

However, the diplomat pointed out that Mozambique was much closer to the socialist economic community, COMECON, because the Mozambican economy is predominantly socialist.

SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTER COMMENTS ON BOPHUTHATSWANA ELECTIONS

MB200905 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0600 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Mr (Kugumongwe), Bophuthatswana's minister of posts and telecommunications, says his country is not unduly worried about its lack of international political recognition and that Bophuthatswana will eventually come to be known to the world through its deeds. Speaking on television, he said economic cooperation across borders is essential, provided that sovereignty is not affected.

Asked whether his country's decision to opt for independence from South Africa 5 years ago was the right one, he said that, given the same choice again, Bophuthatswana would walk through fire, as he put it, to gain independence.

When polling stations in the Bophuthatswana general election closed at 2100 last night, there were still lines of voters at some constituencies. Although it rained over large parts of Bophuthatswana yesterday, the weather did not dampen the spirits of voters. Voting in most constituencies picked up later in the afternoon after a slow start in the morning. The rain hampered telecommunications with outlying areas. The votes are to be counted at a central point in Mmbatho and the results of the election are expected toward the end of the week.

Voters Boycott Elections

MB200817 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 20 Oct 82

[Text] Voters in Soweto, in Johannesburg, have boycotted the Bophuthatswana general election. A report in the RAND DAILY MAIL says only 120 people went to the polls yesterday. At least the same number were turned away because they were not registered as voters. There were three polling stations in Soweto and Johannesburg for those who have taken up Bophuthatswana citizenship. By midafternoon only 70 people had voted. The report said one reason for the apathy may be that Bophuthatswana citizenship was forced on people when the territory became independent 5 years ago. The election is the first since then.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA CRITICIZES S. AFRICAN APARTHEID POLICY

MB170801 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Oct 82

[Text] President Kaunda has criticized racist South African Prime Minister Botha's government for its continued apartheid policies. Dr Kaunda said if only Botha could place himself in Oliver Tambo or Nelson Mandela's shoes, he could have realized and changed his policies for the better. Both Mr Tambo and Mandela are leaders of the African National Congress of South Africa.

The president told a luncheon hosted by the chairman of the (Lwangwa) industries, Mrs (Langwe), (Chipata) teacher training college, yesterday that Zambia had supported the liberation struggles in Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe because it hated racist policies that existed in these countries. He said Zambia does not hate South Africa as a nation, but hates the apartheid system of government under which the majority are being suppressed. The president said no nation could call itself civilized if it practices racialism and called on South Africa to end its system quickly.

ZIMBABWE

CULTURAL, TRADE AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH ANGOLA

CA191006 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Text] Zimbabwe and the People's Republic of Angola have signed a number of agreements covering cultural cooperation and trade. The agreements were signed by the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe and the president of Angola, President dos Santos, at a ceremony held at Newton Building in Harare. Comrade Mugabe said the agreements create a new base on which stronger relations can be built between the two countries. He said Zimbabwe is ready to implement these accords and any others which may be negotiated in future. The Angolan leader said the two countries should explore every avenue of cooperation among countries in the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC. He hoped more [words indistinct] will be made between the two governments.

Comrade dos Santos has ended his 4-day official visit to Zimbabwe and left Harare at 1300 this afternoon.

Dos Santos Departs

CA191000 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Before leaving Harare for Luanda, President dos Santos reiterated his government's insistence that the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola should not be linked to the independence of Namibia. But before the Angolan leader left, Comrade Mugabe gave him a message for the people of that country. In the message, the prime minister called upon Angolans to unite in order to frustrate internal and external destabilizing forces. Comrade Mugabe assured the people of Angola of Zimbabwe's support in their efforts to defend their territorial integrity.

MUGABE TO LEAD OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO NIGERIA

MB191046 Harare Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, leaves the capital tomorrow for a 4-day official visit to Nigeria. Comrade Mugabe will be accompanied by his wife, Comrade Sally Mugabe; the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Mangwende; the minister of information, posts and telecommunications, Comrade Shamuyariara; the minister of industry and energy development, Comrade Makoni; the minister of manpower planning and development, Comrade Shava; and senior government officials.

The prime minister and his delegation return home on Sunday.

BRIEFS

FRG LOAN AGREEMENT -- Zimbabwe and the Federal Republic of Germany have signed a \$3 million agreement. The agreement was signed in Harare today by the deputy minister of economic planning and development. [Words indistinct] the loan will be used to purchase telecommunications equipment. [Text] [Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Oct 82 CA]

